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China Mail

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1845

No. 25,778 HONG KONG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1928.

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PAPER MONEY.

CANTON REPUDIATES OWN NOTES.

FACE LOST.

Revenue Payments Must Be Made In Coin.

GOVERNMENT TROOPS GAIN ANOTHER VICTORY OVER IRONSIDES.

Almost immediately after enhancing its position by decisively defeating the strongest opponent in the field, the present Canton Government allows its prestige to suffer by announcing a decision which has caused a startling drop in the value of the official bank-notes.

Sympathy for the merchant class was manifest in the Government's strong policy towards labour. Accordingly, it is all the more difficult to comprehend the motive behind the administration's readiness to "lose face" over the paper money.

Further business failures are rumoured in the city. In the realm of war, the Government has scored another victory over the Ironsides and one of the two leading Generals is going out to the front in person.

BUSINESS FAILURES.

Should the notes issued by the Central Bank of China, Canton (an organisation of the Nationalist Party and Government), become worthless, the Canton Government must "lose face." But it is announced that the Government has decided forthwith that payments by the people of revenue of all forms must be 80 per cent. in coin (i.e., Canton silver 20 cents pieces) and 20 per cent. in paper money.

Financial Panic.

In other words, the Nationalist Government of Canton is practically repudiating the notes of the Central Bank.

News of the decision caused a panic in native financial circles in Hong Kong and Canton. From about 50 per cent. (in ratio to Canton silver), the notes dropped to 35 and 30 per cent. and official buying quotations were almost non-existent to-day.

TRADE DIFFICULTIES.

Rice Firms Fall: Rules Against Unions.

Business failures of the past Chinese year are the subject of rumours, it being stated that a number of rice firms are involved, in addition to other trades mentioned in yesterday's "China Mail."

The Associated Chamber of Commerce has petitioned the authorities against the unions of shop foks and general employees, making serious accusations against the men.

Lightning Strike.

The Government has ruled that all labour unions in the city which have been closed will not be allowed to re-open. Those which have remained must keep in touch with the provincial department of agriculture and labour so as to be under proper surveillance.

Members of the oil union have the distinction of being the first to down tools after China New Year. They made a "lightning strike," the most favoured form of offence of Chinese labour, and it is not known yet what they are out for.

Unions As Contractors.

Another Government decision against labour is unknown to Occidentals because the reason for it is peculiar to the Chinese. Whereas the unions are constantly crying out against the compradore, foreman and contractor, it transpires that some unions in Canton have contracted for labour! This is now expressly forbidden.

WAR AREAS.

Canton General To Visit The Front.

General Wong Shiu-hung, the colleague of General Li Chai-sum and one of the big four of the Kwangsi faction, is to leave Canton for the war zone between the East River and Swatow. It will be recalled that he counter-attacked and defeated the Communist army which held Swatow for a week. On returning to Canton,

he was overthrown, temporarily, by the Ironsides, in the absence at Shanghai of General Li Chai-sum.

One or two allied units have been fighting on the side of the Kwangsi faction in the campaign against the Ironsides and it is the intention of the Canton Government to consolidate the whole force.

Ironsides' Final Drubbing.

Swatow may be given to General Chen Min-chu who is something of an anomaly. He was a colleague of the commander-in-chief of the Ironsides, both then and now. After a temporary eclipse, he returned to active command under the inspiration of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek who does not now agree with Canton. And the General concerned assisted Li Chai-sum in the drive against the Ironsides.

A delayed war despatch makes out the Ironsides to have suffered a final drubbing before China New Year, since when they have set their faces definitely for the south of Kiangsi province.

Reds in South Kiangsi.

Kiukiang, Yesterday. Considerable trouble is being caused in the south of Kiangsi province by Communist elements.—British Naval Wireless.

OMETEPE VOLCANO.

ERUPTION CAUSES A PANIC.

VILLAGERS FLEE.

Managua, Yesterday.

The villagers at the foot of Ometepe Volcano, on an island in the Lake of Nicaragua, are fleeing to the mainland in panic owing to the eruption of the volcano, the roar of which is audible for many miles. Fine ash is falling ten miles away, and the sun is hidden by the smoke.—Reuter's American Service.

VOLCANO ACTIVE.

LONG REGARDED AS EXTINCT.

Moscow, Yesterday.

The Sheveluch volcano, on the east coast of Kamchatka, which was regarded as extinct, has suddenly become intensely active.—Reuter.

SEVERE 'QUAKE.

SEVERAL TOWNS IN MEXICO DAMAGED.

Mexico City, Yesterday.

A severe earthquake occurred this morning over a wide area in the State of Oaxaca. Several towns are reported to be damaged.—Reuter's American Service.

ESCAPE CAUGHT.

LOSES LIBERTY AFTER SEVEN MONTHS.

Paris, Yesterday.

Delant, who escaped from Santa prison along with Daudet last June, has been arrested near Mont de Marais.—Reuter.

TWO PIRACIES.

Local Police In Action.

ONE BANDIT KILLED.

In Second Instance Junk Completely Looted.

The story of a piracy which resulted in the local police taking action against the outlaws, killing one and wounding another of their number, reached Police Headquarters this morning.

Full details are lacking, but the information available is that a cargo junk, the number of which has not been ascertained, sailed from Futuamun for Hong Kong at 7 a.m., on January 25. Soon afterwards she was approached by a Hoklo boat which fired upon the junk and forced her to heave to.

When the pirate craft got alongside the junk, five men armed with daggers and short fire-arms boarded the prize. The pirates had no difficulty in overpowering the scared junk master and his crew, who were imprisoned in the hold of the junk.

The pirates then sailed the junk to Taimui in the Salikung district which was reached the following day (yesterday). At Taimui the junk was met by several sampans containing about 20 men who went on board and helped the five pirates to ransack the junk.

They took all of the junk's cargo and everything else of value which they found on board.

Police Posses. Whilst this was going on, the local police received information which led to a posse headed by Inspector Murphy and Sergeant Meadows going to Taimui to investigate.

The party of police succeeded in surprising the pirates on board the junk. When the police were sighted, the pirates made an attempt to escape ashore. In the chase which followed, the police opened fire on the fugitives, one being killed outright and another wounded and captured.

It is not at present known if the pirates put up any resistance against the police before they were fired upon, and there is no information if any others of the outlaws were captured.

The report concluded, with the statement that a few daggers were picked up in the hills in the vicinity, which gives the impression that the pirates escaped into the hills where presumably their den is located.

Another Piracy.

The report of another junk piracy in which the captured craft was also taken to the Salikung district, has also been sent through to Police Headquarters.

The details in this case are more incomplete than in the one reported above.

The victim in this instance appears to be a trading junk plying between Hong Kong and Chinese territory. She left Chungsha in the Hoiung district for Hong Kong at 7 a.m., on January 24, with general Chinese cargo on board.

At 6 o'clock the same day when off the Customs Station at Shamun in Chinese territory, the trader was approached by a small junk which ordered her to help.

When this order was not complied with, those on board the stranger opened fire on their prey and forced her to leave to. Many pirates were stated to have boarded the trader when the smaller junk got alongside.

The modus operandi was the same as in the other case. Once they got on board the trader, the outlaws terrorised the junk's crew and drove them all into the hold, where they were held prisoners.

Then the pirates sailed the junk to Potal-O in the Salikung district which was reached at 4 p.m., yesterday. Here they took ashore all the cargo and jewellery, money and other property of the junk's crew to the value of \$2,085.

FURIOUS GALE.

LOSS OF LIFE CAUSED IN TENNESSEE.

New York, Yesterday.

A gale, which has been raging during the past two days, has caused loss of life and damage to property in Tennessee, where 70 miles-an-hour gusts demolished whole rows of wooden houses along the beaches. Two school-boys are ashore on the New England coast.—Reuter's American Service.

INTERPORT GOLF.

To-day's Play Against Shanghai.

LEAD OVER MANILA.

Locals Change Partners For Foursball Games.

In meeting the Shanghai Inter-ports the local representatives are, in the words of one of our players, "Up against a tough proposition."

As the result of this morning's play in the foursball games, Pendered and Dodwell are nine down to Blinko and Budd; Erskine and Bloxham are two down to

RAIN MAY COME.

North east winds, moderate generally cloudy, some rain, is the official weather forecast until noon to-morrow.

The depression has moved into the Yellow Sea. Another anticyclone is forming over China but pressure remains low over Indo-China.

Malcolm and Pilcher, and Andrews and Murray are four up on Tummung and Pettit.

Following are the results of the fourball games yesterday between Hong Kong and Manila:

T. D. E. Pendered and L. R. Andrews lost to Capt. K. J. Fielder and E. J. Nell 3 and 2. Capt. F. D. Erskine and Capt. H. F. Bloxham beat Lieut. J. Cranston and G. Ivory 6 and 4.

L. G. S. Dodwell and G. Murray beat J. R. Mason and Capt. J. J. Yates 4 and 2.

Two points are given for each foursome or fourball match, and one point for each single. Consequently, the position at the end of yesterday's play was:

Hong Kong: 4 points; Manila: 2 points.

ST. JOHN BRIGADE.

LOCAL AMBULANCE SHIELD COMPETITION.

S.M.O.'S REPORT.

Following is the report made by Colonel T. J. Bostock, Senior Medical Officer, China Command, and Major Stevenson, R.A.M.C., who acted as Judges of the recent competition by the Divisions of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade:

It afforded Major Stevenson and myself great pleasure to have the opportunity of seeing the progress of this important Civil Service, and to note with what keenness, enthusiasm and understanding, the good work is being carried on. We re-

CANTON OFFICIAL.

Discharged This Afternoon.

This afternoon Mr. Roger Edward Lindell discharged Wong Chong-chi, the Canton Official whose extradition to Canton was asked for on eleven charges of larceny of \$1,848,794 from the Central Bank of Canton.

In the course of his judgment, Mr. Lindell referred to cases quoted by Mr. Potter yesterday, and said that in his opinion he could not see what case was revealed by Mr. Sheldon's opening which called upon the fugitive to answer. Therefore the fugitive was entitled to his discharge.

cognized we were witnessing the work in varying stages whereas in some cases it was extremely efficient, in others the work was not so far advanced.

Much can be learnt by such competitions, and we are satisfied that Units in the novice stages will have benefited by their experience. We feel we should like to congratulate the organisers, and supporters, of this very important movement, and also the Officers and Instructors, on the results of their labours.

Results of Competition.

	Percentage
1st Y.M.C.A.	84.15
2nd King's College	74.50
3rd Mongkok	68.95
4th Shaukiwan	68.50
5th Indian	60.25
6th Kowloon	52.50

"SHAFORCE" LAUDED.

Eloquent Appreciation Expressed.

GENERAL'S FAREWELL.

Settlement A Wonderful Example Of Enterprise.

Shanghai, Yesterday.

An eloquent testimony of the appreciation of Shanghai at the presence of the British Force was afforded to-night when Major-General Sir John Duncan was the guest of honour at a farewell dinner given by the International community. Twenty nationalities were prominently represented.

Mr. Fessenden, (American), Chairman of the Municipality, declared that Sir John Duncan and the British forces had won the praise, gratitude, and admiration of all nationalities here.

Shanghai's Hospitality. Sir John Duncan, in replying, said that what struck him most about Shanghai was its hospitality and enterprise. He thanked them, especially the women, for their hospitality to the troops, especially during the hot weather.

Locarno Spirit.

This great International settlement, unique in the world, was created by foreigners under conditions unparalleled elsewhere. It was really a wonderful example of enterprise.

Referring to the work of the Forces here Sir John Duncan said that he had tried to introduce the Locarno spirit into the problems which had faced him, especially vis-a-vis the Chinese, from whom he had received courtesy, friendliness, and consideration.

No Friction.

Sir John Duncan dwelt upon the spirit of co-operation which had characterised the relations of the forces of seven nationalities that landed in Shanghai. Not only had there been no friction, but there were differences, which was remarkable and pleasant fact.

Referring to the situation to-day Sir John Duncan said that it had greatly improved compared with a year ago when it was impossible for foreigners to go to the surrounding districts, but could do so safely to-day. That had all changed. Also, the very tense feeling then had now disappeared, especially since the zone of the civil war had moved northward. However, the presence of the Defence Forces alone had assured the peace and safety of Shanghai during the danger period last year. (Loud cheers).—Reuter.

SHAKESPEARE.

KING AND THE MEMORIAL THEATRE.

AMERICANS THANKED.

Rugby, Yesterday.

His Majesty the King has sent through Sir Austen Chamberlain the following message to the American Shakespeare Foundation:

The King commands me to express to you his sincerest thanks for your telegram conveying the greetings of the American Shakespeare Foundation, and to assure you of the deep interest with which His Majesty has learned of their participation with the British Shakespeare Committee in the rebuilding and the endowment of the Memorial Theatre at Stratford-on-Avon. As patron of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre His Majesty welcomes the co-operation of the American Foundation, and cordially appreciates the assistance which the American actors and actresses are giving at the benefit performances at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York.

He trusts that this may have results entirely gratifying to the cause which the two organisations have at heart.—British Wireless Service.

PRAYER BOOK.

APPEAL BY ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

DUTY OF PRAYER.

London, Yesterday. An earnest appeal for prayers in connection with the forthcoming session of the National Assembly of the Church of England to discuss the Prayer Book has been issued by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who urges on the whole Church the duty of remembering public and private prayers, and the need for seeking Divine guidance at a time of special importance in the history of the Church of England.—Reuter.

THREE WARS.

YANGTZE AND NORTHERN BATTLES.

YANG SEN'S DEFEAT.

Peking Government Troops Ready To Retreat.

NATIONALIST COLUMN SAID TO HAVE CAPTURED SHASI.

News of three campaigns in China makes interesting reading because in some ways they are inter-connected and in other respects each is a war in itself with little or no bearing on national developments.

In Central China, south of the mid-Yangtze, colleagues of the leaders of the Canton Government, assisted by friends, have scored signal victories, or are made to do so by cables to hand.

Further up the Yangtze, a Nationalist column which seems to be acting solely for itself is stated to have defeated the adventurer, General Yang Sen, who is believed to have asked for an armistice.

Up in North China, the forces of the Peking Government are mentioned as concentrating on retreat because the "Christian General," as an ally of the Nanking Nationalists, is bent on an advance.

ICHANG'S REQUEST.

General Pei Chung-hsi, one of the big four of the Kwangsi Military faction (General Li Chai-sum of Canton being another) is reported by the "Wah Keung Po" to have entered the river port of Changsha, which is about half way from Hankow down to the northern boundary of Kwangtung. The losing side, the Hunanese Army, is reported to be retreating southwards, towards the Kwangtung frontier.

"Near" Changsha.

Changsha, Yesterday. The Nationalist armies from Hankow are reported to be near Changsha.—British Naval Wireless.

Partners at Canton.

It will be recalled that General Pei Chung-hsi purposely gave up the useful post of Defence Commissioner of Shanghai and Wootton to lead his men back to Canton, via Hankow, with the object of crushing the Ironsides. The task has been accomplished by his allies but he may still be trying to reach Kwangtung by the overland route and join hands with his partners.

A Chinese cable says that General Tang Seng-chi, who at one time was the dictator of the Hankow Government, has returned to Hunan from sanctuary in Japan but is not confirmed.

Startling Revolt. Baulked.

A startling feature of the war in Hunan was the sudden turning against the winning side by General Yieh Kai-shin. This man first fought for the North but surrendered to the Nationalists. On the Nationalist side, he has been taking part in the drive (led by General Pei Chung-hsi and others) against the Hunanese.

The news is that on Jan. 23 he attacked his friends' rear at Yochow, which is between the Changsha front and Hankow. He was baulked, however. General

ANTHRAX MENACE.

SHARING BRUSH AND FURS.

INTERESTING POINT.

London, Yesterday.

A verdict of death by misadventure was returned at an inquest at Southwark on a man whose sons were employed in a skin and fur factory at Bermondsey.

It was stated that the man and his sons used the same shaving brush.

The manager of the factory said some of the skins on which the sons worked came from Japan, China, Siberia, and Persia.

The Coroner remarked that these were most deadly countries for anthrax.

Witnesses replied that they were said to be, but in 25 years he had never known a case of anthrax occurring through handling furs.—Reuter.

TO-DAY'S DOLLAR.

The closing rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2/0 3/16.

Pei Chung-hsi and other Nationalist Generals are stated to have surrounded the revolvers and dealt with them drastically, making large captures of men and arms.

UPPER YANGTZE.

General Yang Sen Asking For Terms.

On the Upper Yangtze, a Nationalist column which set out westwards (up-river) from Hankow, is reported overnight to have taken the Treaty port of Shasi, which is 287 miles above Hankow.

General Yang Sen, who had been forcing his way down the Yangtze in his own interests, is stated at the same time to be at Ichang, which is 83 miles above Shasi.

Present indications are that the Nationalist column will push on up-river against Yang Sen. At any rate, Yang Sen's fighting power is said to have been spent and he is asking for an armistice.

People of Ichang are asking the Nationalists to go on up there as they need war relief badly after the horrors committed during Yang Sen's occupation.

Chance for Bandits.

Ichang, Yesterday. Owing to trouble in Szechuan province (i.e., further up the Yangtze than Ichang), General Yang Sen may withdraw his army up river. Should such a situation arise, Yang Sen's control of the Ichang area will cease and bandits will probably break out.—British Naval Wireless.

PEKING AS PRIZE.

Fengtien Forces to Make a Stand?

With Peking as the prize, the Kuominchun (the army under Feng Yu-hsiang, the "Christian General" and an ally of Nanking) is mentioned in war despatches as having won a signal victory after some determined fighting in the south of Chihli province, about 300 miles from Peking. Large captures are claimed.

Another report states that the Fengtien Government (i.e., of the Peking Government) are preparing to make a stand before their enemies get any closer.

Conference of Generals.

Peking, Yesterday. The Fengtien leaders' conference is nearing a conclusion. Chang Tsung-chang, Sun Chuan-fang and Chu Yu-pu, having already left for their headquarters for the purpose of preparing for an offence against Feng Yu-hsiang (the "Christian General").

While no official announcement has been made, it is learned from a reliable source that an agreement has been reached upon all political matters. The conference agreed to support Marshal Chang Tso-lin in all the changes it was proposed should be made. At present it is unknown exactly what these are likely to be.—Reuter.

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THE Undersigned have received instructions from Mrs. G. A. V. Hughes to sell by Public Auction on

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Comprising:—

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Teak Wardrobes with Bevelled
Mirrors, Dressing Tables with
Bevelled Mirrors, Oscillating Table
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Hong Kong, 21st January, 1928.

The \$600,000 Film.

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UNCLAIMED TELEGRAMS.

**THE GREAT NORTHERN
TELEGRAPH CO. LTD.
OF DENMARK.**

The following unclaimed tele-
grams are lying at the office of the
Great Northern Telegraph Com-
pany (Limited) of Denmark:—

Yamakami, Tokio Hotel, from
Shanghai.

Gibson, from Shanghai.

Dodwell, from Shanghai.

Daini, Atsuta Maru, Mitsui, from
Tokio.

Braky (2), from Yokohama.

Walker, care of Linstead, from
Kobe.

E. V. JESSEN,
Superintendent.

Hong Kong Station, January
26, 1928.

NOTICES.

**DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF
HONG KONG AND SOUTH
CHINA, S.C.**

ANNUAL MASONIC SERVICE.

ALL Brethren are invited to
attend Divine Service at St.
John's Cathedral on SUNDAY
EVENING, January 29th at 6
o'clock, when the Third Annual
Masonic Service will be held.

E. J. EDWARDS,
District Grand Master Depute.

Hong Kong, 26th January, 1928.

UNION WATERBOAT CO. LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

**THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING** of
Shareholders will be held in the
Office of Messrs. Dodwell & Com-
pany, Limited, on TUESDAY, the
7th February, 1928, at 11 a.m. for
the purpose of receiving the report
of the General Managers together
with the Statement of Accounts
to 31st December, 1927.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the
Company will be CLOSED from
the 30th January to 7th February,
1928, both dates inclusive.

**DODWELL & COMPANY, LTD.,
General Managers.**

Hong Kong, 21st January, 1928.

**HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND
FINANCE CO. LTD.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the ANNUAL ORDIN-
ARY GENERAL MEETING of
Shareholders in this Company will
be held at the Hong Kong Hotel,
Hong Kong, on THURSDAY, the
9th February, 1928, at 11 a.m. for
the purpose of receiving the Report
of the Directors together with a
Statement of Accounts for the
year ended 31st December, 1927.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the
Company will be CLOSED from
WEDNESDAY, 1st February to
FRIDAY, 10th February (both
days inclusive), during which
period no transfer of Shares can
be registered.

**JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.**

Hong Kong, 26th January, 1928.

HUGHES & HOUGH.

AUCTIONEERS.

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Situate in the Peak District in the
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"FUNG SHUI"

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Vacant Possession 31st March,
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All that piece or parcel of ground
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feet registered in the Land Office
as the Remaining Portion of Rural
Building No. 2 together with all
the messuages or tenements and
other erections thereon and the
rights, easements and appurten-
ances thereto belonging and all the
estate and interest of the Vendor in
and to all the said premises.

For further particulars apply
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Vendors' Solicitors,
or to

Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH, LTD.,
Auctioneers.

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Victoria, Hong Kong.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

**STONECUTTERS' FIRING
PROGRAMME.**

LATEST ORDERS.

The following orders have been
issued by Lt.-Col. L. G. Bird,
D.S.O., Commandant.

Programme of firing Part I.
Table "T" on Stonecutters Range
circulated to all concerned with to-
day's orders.

Stonecutters Range is allotted to
the Portuguese Company for firing
Part I. on Sunday, February 5.

Musketry.

Sunday, January 29, 1928

Engineer Company, Scottish
Company and Casuals will fire Part
II. Table "T" at Stonecutters
Range.

Range Officers: Lieut. R. S.
Logan and Capt. K. S. Morrison.

Launch will leave Murray Pier
at 9 a.m. and call at Kowloon Pier
at 9.10 a.m.

Dress: Uniform or multi op-
tional, but rifle, bayonet, pouches,
braces and belt must be worn.

Arms will be drawn from Corps
Headquarters on Friday, January
27, 1928, between 9 a.m. and 12
noon, or 2 and 4 p.m., or 5 and 6
p.m.; and on Saturday, January 28,
between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Casuals.

A large number of all ranks have
not yet fired Part II. Lists of
names are posted on Corps notice
boards. All such will make ar-
rangements to fire by Sunday,
January 29, 1928, the last day on
which Part II. will be fired.

Corps Signals.

Parade at Corps Headquarters at
5.30 p.m. on Monday, January 30,
and Thursday, February 2, 1928,
for Signal Instruction. Dress:
Muff.

Artillery Company.

Parade at Corps Headquarters at
5.25 p.m. on Thursday, February 2,
for Battery Drill. Signal Section
as per programme.

Engineer Company.

Musketry Part II. See order
No. 3.

Mounted Infantry Co.

There will be a lecture at Corps
Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Mon-
day, January 30, 1928. Subject:
"Use of Cover."

The lecture will be followed by
a meeting to discuss gymkhana ar-
rangements.

Armoured Car Co.

Car Section: Parade at Corps
Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Mon-
day, January 30, 1928, and
2/Lieut. A. C. Groves for forma-
tion run and signal practice.
Dress: Muff.

Motor Cyclists will parade at
Corps Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on
Monday, January 30, and proceed
to Kennedy Road Range for
Machine Gun firing under 2/Lieut.
J. E. Hancock.

**Thursday, February 2: Special
parade at Corps Headquarters at
5.30 p.m. under 2/Lieut. Hancock
for those previously detailed.**

Infantry Company.

No. 1 Platoon will parade at
Corps Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on
Tuesday, January 31, and Friday,
February 3, 1928, for Machine Gun
Instruction. Dress: Muff.

No. 2 Platoon will parade at
Corps Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on
Tuesday, January 31, for Machine
Gun Instruction. Dress: Belt, rifle
and bayonet.

Scottish Company.

Musketry Part II.: All those who
have not yet fired must do so on
Sunday, January 29. For particu-
lars see Order No. 3.

**Thursday, February 2, at 5.30
p.m. All Platoons at Platoon Head-
quarters for Vickers Gun Instruc-
tion. Dress: Muff, rifle, belt and
bayonet.**

**Route March: Thursday,
February 23. The Company will
parade at full strength on above
date at Kowloon Ferry and march
to Kowloon Dock where No. 6 Pla-
toon have kindly consented to be
"At Home" to Nos. 5 and 7 Pla-
toons.**

Coming Events.

Sunday, March 4, 1928: Shoot
against 2nd Batta., K.O.S.B.

Sunday, April 1, 1928: Inter-Pla-
toon shoot for "Dyer" Cup.

"Quarry Bay" Cup, Guard Mount-
ing, etc., will be completed for at
an early and convenient date in
March.

Full details of above competi-
tions will be announced later.

Portuguese Company.

Parade on Friday, January 27, at
5.30 p.m., at Corps Headquarters.
Dress: Muff, belt, bayonet frog,
sling, rifle and bayonet for arms
and squad drill.

N.C.O.'s and Nos. 1 and 2 of
Lewis Gun Sections will parade at
Corps Headquarters on Tuesday,
January 31, for Lewis Gun train-
ing.

Next Company parade on Friday,
February 8, 1928.

Reserve Company.

The Machine Gun Class will be
held at Corps Headquarters at 5.30
p.m. on Wednesday, February 1.
Dress: Muff.

Strength.

The following recruit is taken on
the strength on January 20, 1928,
and posted to the Portuguese Com-
pany:—No. 1296 Pte. F. A. Castro.

Appointment.

The following extract from the
"Hong Kong Government Gazette"
No. 4, dated January 20, 1928, is
published for information:—

"H.E. the Governor has been
pleased to appoint Corporal
Henry Russell Forsyth to be
Second Lieutenant, in the Hong
Kong Volunteer Defence Corps,
with effect from January 14, 1928."

Promotion.

H.E. the Governor has been
pleased to approve of the promo-
tion of Second Lieutenant Robert
Spiera Logan to the rank of
Lieutenant in the Hong Kong
Volunteer Defence Corps, with
effect from January 20, 1928.

Command.

Lieut. R. S. Logan takes over
command of the Engineer Company,
Field Section, as from January 20,
1928, vice Major R. Melville Smith,
M.B.E., on leave.

Officers' Mess Committee.

Major H. B. L. Dowbiggin will
take over P.M.C. from Captain Sir
Eric Stuart Taylor, Bart., O.B.E.,
as from February 1, 1928.

Members:—Lieut. T. Addis
Martin and 2/Lieut. H. Owen-
Hughes.

Transfer.

No. 873 Pte. W. Paterson is trans-
ferred from the Armoured Car
Company to the Reserve Company,
as from January 18, 1928.

Reversion.

No. 554 Corp. W. L. Smith, No. 1
Platoon, reverts to the ranks at his
own request, as from December 16,
1927.

Resignations.

The following are permitted to
resign from the Corps on leaving
the Colony, as from January 18,
1928:—

No. 980 Pte. J. A. Summers, No. 7
Platoon.

No. 579 Pte. R. W. Stoddart, Re-
serve Company.

No. 844 Pte. W. J. Brown, Re-
serve Company.

No. 1146 Pte. S. O. Gregory, No. 2
Platoon.

Having completed three years' service and claimed his discharge,
as from January 17, 1928:—

No. 549 Pte. J. A. H. Plummer,
No. 1 Platoon.

NOTICE.

Portuguese Co. Rifle Club.

First shoot of the year will take
place at Peak Range on Sunday,
January 29. Firing commences
9 a.m. sharp. Only those detailed
by Rifle Club Committee to attend.

MUSKETRY PROGRAMME.

Part I. Table "T" 1928.

Stonecutters Range.

Sunday.

February 5:—

Portuguese Company.

February 12:—

Reserve Company.

February 19:—

Infantry Company.

February 26:—

Scottish Company.

March 4:—

Scottish Company.

March 11:—

Field Section & Corps Signals.

March

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* SIBERIA MARU (Calls Los Angeles) Tuesday, 6th March.
* TAIYO MARU Tuesday, 20th March.
* Calls Keelung.

LONDON via Singapore, Suez, Marseilles & Ports.
HARUNA MARU Saturday, 28th January.
KAMO MARU Saturday, 11th February.
KATORI MARU Saturday, 25th February.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.
MISHIMA MARU Wednesday, 22nd February.
TANGO MARU Wednesday, 21st March.

BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang, & Colombo.
* SEIYO MARU Wednesday, 1st February.
* TAMBA MARU Saturday, 11th February.

SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Mexico & Panama.
GINYO MARU Monday, 6th February.

SOUTH AMERICA (East Coast) via Singapore, Cape Town & Ports.
KAWACHI MARU Wednesday, 20th February.

NEW YORK and/or BOSTON via PANAMA.
* TATSUNO MARU Thursday, 9th February.

LIVERPOOL via Singapore, Colombo, Port Said & Ports.
DELAGOA MARU Thursday, 9th February.

CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON.
* PENANG MARU Wednesday, 1st February.

NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
AKI MARU Friday, 17th February.

SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
SADO MARU (Kobe direct) Sunday, 29th January.
* TOKUSHIMA MARU (Mojil direct) Friday, 3rd February.

KASHIMA MARU Monday, 6th February.
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SPHINX 15th Feb.
PORTHOS 29th Feb.
PAUL LECAT 14th Mar.

From Dunkirk, Antwerp, London

YANG TSE (Cargo) 31st Jan.
YALOU (Cargo) 25th Feb.

For Shanghai, Japan and North China

YANG TSE (Cargo) 31st Jan.
YALOU (Cargo) 25th Feb.

For Shanghai and Japan

G. METZINGER 1st Feb.
SPHINX 15th Feb.
PORTHOS 29th Feb.
PAUL LECAT 14th Mar.

For Marseilles

ANGERS 31st Jan.
D'ARTAGNAN 14th Feb.
G. METZINGER 28th Feb.
SPHINX 15th Mar.
PORTHOS 27th Mar.

For Rotterdam, Hamburg, Dunkirk

LT. ST. LOUBERT BIE
(Cargo) 4th Feb.

YANG TSE
(Cargo) 1st week Mar.

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SHIPPING SECTION.

LOCAL SHIPPING.

TO-DAY'S ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

THIS MORNING'S LIST.

Santhia (4,841) British, from Osaka, Moji.—Mc. Mackenzie—32 passengers, 1,247 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 1,590 tons general (through).
Delta (4,788) British, from Kobe, Shanghai.—Mc. Mackenzie, —17 passengers 128 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 680 tons general (through).
City of Madras (3,048) British, from Dunkirk, Singapore.—Bank Line—400 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 5,027 tons general (through).
Gleniffer (6,021) British, from Kobe, Shanghai.—Jardine's—8 passengers, 7,800 tons general cargo (through).
Hanoi (630) French, from Haiphong, Fort Bayard.—M.M.—17 passengers, 280 tons rice for Hong Kong.
Tonkin (907) French, from Haiphong.—M.M.—31 passengers, 300 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Soliven (1,435) Norwegian, from Bangkok.—Fau Yeun Hong—5 passengers, 2,100 tons rice for Hong Kong.
Prominent (1,377) Norwegian, from Saigon.—Wo Fat Sing—6 passengers, 2,218 tons rice for Hong Kong.
Matsumoto Maru (7,024) Japanese, from Hamburg, Singapore.—N.Y.K.—344 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 5,945 tons general (through).
Taito Maru (1,915) Japanese, from Keelung.—M.B.K.—cargo nil.
Salmon Maru (1,818) Japanese, from Bangkok.—Sado & Co.—12 passengers, 2,844 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.
Seattle Maru (5,852) Japanese, from Yokohama, Moji.—O.S.K.—3 passengers, 963 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 4,310 tons general (through).
Malacca Maru (3,210) Japanese, from Yokohama, Shanghai.—N.Y.K.—1,659 tons general cargo for Hong Kong, 3,718 tons general (through).
Dorwent (1,562) Chinese, from Saigon.—Yuet On S.S. Co.—4 passengers, 1,321 tons rice for Hong Kong.

Departures.
For Swatow:—Nanchang, Deli Maru, Hydrangea.
For Macao:—Tak Hing.
For K. C. Wan:—Sun Sai Kai, Wing Wo.
For Shanghai:—Linan.
For Canton:—Nanning, Vulcanus.
For Singapore:—Kongsberg, Delta, Gleniffer.
For Sandakan:—Sui Sang.
For Aitau:—Tak Hing.
Clearances.
For K. C. Wan:—Sun Kong.
For Singapore:—Seattle Maru.
For Haiphong:—Tonkin.
For Manila:—Araura.
For Shanghai:—Matsumoto.
Shipping Abstract.

	Arrivals	Departures	Port.
British	5	7	31
Japanese	5	1	12
Norwegian	2	0	14
Chinese	1	4	19
Dutch	0	1	0
French	2	0	4
German	0	1	0
Portuguese	0	0	2
Panama	0	0	1
	14	14	87

SEMINOLE SALVED.

VESSEL SAFELY DOCKED AT LIVERPOOL.

SMOKING RESTRICTIONS.

The American Oil Co.'s motor tanker "Seminole," which ran ashore on the Puckington Bank, was safely docked in the Brunswick, Liverpool, after having been floated off the bank and berthed alongside the dock entrance. The docking of the "Seminole" brings to a close an incident which caused a great deal of anxiety to the dock officials of Liverpool owing to the large amount of oil which discharged from the vessel into the river at the time she was lying on the bank.

The restrictions which had been imposed on all shipping—particularly the ferries crossing the river—as to smoking—have now been entirely removed, but so far as the dock itself is concerned, the precautions are as imperative as ever until all the oil has been removed from the vessel and from the dock.

Fitter's Death.

The salvage operations were marred by a fatality to a fitter named Charles F. Meikle, employed by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, who fell into the river and was drowned in spite of an heroic attempt at rescue by John Fenton (27), a fitter employed by Messrs. Cammell Laird. Meikle who was working on a "camel" barge employed in the operation, slipped and fell into the river. Fenton plunged in to rescue him, but was soon overcome by the cold water. He was picked up by a boat and taken to the Southern Hospital, suffering from exposure.

NO CARTEL.

CLYDE SHIPBUILDER AND TALK OF TRUSTS.

The recent proposal by the Duke of Montrose for a shipbuilding pool was repudiated by Sir Alexander M. Kennedy, chairman of the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Govan, speaking after the launch of the motorship "Taranaki," one of two vessels of the same type being built by the company for the Shaw, Savill and Albion Company, London, for the New Zealand trade.
Mrs. Macmillan, wife of the general manager of the owners, performed the launching ceremony, and was afterwards presented with a diamond brooch as a souvenir.
Sir Alexander Kennedy ventured the opinion that in shipping there had passed through the worst of trade depression, although it would take some time for the industry to reach a prosperous basis again.
He would not presume to offer any advice on the coal situation, but business experience forced him to believe that indiscriminate amalgamation or trustification such as had been advocated for the coal industry in certain public quarters should not be too readily accepted as a wise prescription. He trusted the coal industry would not allow itself to be bullied from without, but would insist on working out its own salvation within the industry, along whatever lines seemed best, having in mind the consumers' interests.

Alluding to the recent speech of the Duke of Montrose, in regard to shipbuilding amalgamation Sir Alexander remarked that unfortunately to-day private firms were finding themselves burdened with equipment and resources capable of meeting naval requirements far beyond any programme of naval shipbuilding that was now, or might be for some years to come, likely to be laid down.
The scrapping of all naval capacity would be of most serious moment to the country, but there might be other directions in which shipbuilding firms had other industrial interests where a policy of wise and economic combination might be reached. Broadly speaking, however, he saw no basis upon which there was room for amalgamation in the shipbuilding industry.

CAPTAIN FINED.

"This man was making extra profit for his employers by overloading on each trip, and the only way to discourage such practice is to make the penalty exceed the profits," said Dr. Ginsberg, prosecuting Yesta Moller, captain of the Mermaid, a Swedish steamer, for three offences under the Shipping Act at Tower Bridge Court, London.
Two of the summonses were for overloading his vessel. He was fined a total of £31.18s.2d.

CONSIGNEES' NOTICES.

Consignees of Cargo ex s.s. "D'Artagnan" are advised that all claims must be sent in before January 30.
Consignees of Cargo ex s.s. "City of Madras" are reminded to take delivery of their goods which will be subject to rent after February 1.

NEW CRUISER.

"CUMBERLAND" LEAVES FOR CHINA.

London, Yesterday.
The new cruiser "Cumberland" left Sheerness to-day for China.—Reuter.

ORDEAL ON LINER.

PASSENGERS HURLED ACROSS DECK.

Two Atlantic liners, the Cunarder "Aurania" and the White Star Company's "Celtic," arrived at Liverpool on December 13 after a stormy voyage from America, tremendous seas being encountered.

The "Aurania" had no accidents to passengers, but 13 passengers on the "Celtic" and four of her crew were hurt.

The "Celtic" left Boston on December 5, and immediately experienced rough seas.

Later a whole gale was encountered with a high beam sea. At 11.10 a.m. the ship was struck so forcibly that passengers and crew were hurled across the deck.

Two passengers had the tops of their fingers cut off, one through standing by a door which was slammed, while another was sitting on a deck chair which collapsed and caught his finger.

A third passenger was thrown right across the deck and smashed his head through the panel, severely cutting his ear; while another was forced through some glass.

"I had quite a busy time," said the ship's surgeon. "There were no serious cases, but I was kept occupied stitching up the wounds of the injured."

"It was nothing more than the gales we usually experience at this time of year," stated Commander G. Berry, "and the cause of all the trouble was the inexperience of passengers. Those who had been in a heavy sea before knew just when to hold on and when not to, but others did not, and so were thrown off their balance when a second beam wave struck us immediately following the first."

Commander Berry added that he had often been in much heavier gales.
It was rather strange to see passengers disembarking nursing their injuries. Most of the passengers had been on deck at the time of the storm, hence the number of injured. Happily none of the cases was serious.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

The B. I. s.s. "Talamba" left Singapore for this port on January 22 at a.m., and is due here to-day.

The C.F.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Australia" R/W Cruise left Colombo on January 24 at 4 p.m., and is due at Padang tomorrow 6 a.m.

The C.F.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Canada" (Capt. S. Robinson, C.B.E., R.N.R.) will leave here for Victoria and Vancouver, B.C., via Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama at 6 a.m. on February 15.

The motor vessel "Japanese Prince" from New York sailed from Shanghai yesterday at 4 p.m., and is expected to arrive here on January 29 at daylight.

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STEAMERS	Hong Kong	Shanghai	Kobe	Yokohama	Yokohama
	Leave	Leave	Leave	Leave	Arrive
EMPERESS OF CANADA	Feb. 15	Feb. 18	Feb. 21	Feb. 24	Mar. 4
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	Mar. 7	Mar. 10	Mar. 13	Mar. 16	Mar. 25
EMPERESS OF ASIA	Mar. 23	Mar. 31	Apr. 3	Apr. 6	Apr. 15
EMPERESS OF CANADA	Apr. 18	Apr. 21	Apr. 24	Apr. 27	May 6
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	May 9	May 12	May 15	May 18	May 27
EMPERESS OF ASIA	May 30	June 2	June 5	June 8	June 17
EMPERESS OF CANADA	June 20	June 23	June 26	June 29	July 8
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	July 11	July 14	July 17	July 20	July 29

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Feb. 24	Feb. 26	EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	Mar. 3
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SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP—Via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and Port Said.

ATLAS MARU Friday, 8th February.
RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS & BUENOS AIRES—Via Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Durban & Cape Town.

MONTEVIDEO MARU Friday, 10th February.
BOMBAY—Via Singapore and Colombo.

*HONOLULU MARU Friday, 3rd February.
* (both calls at Karachi).

SHINGO MARU Thursday, 9th February.
SHINNOH MARU Monday, 20th February.

DURBAN, DELAGOA BAY, BEIRA, DAR-ES-SALAAM, ZANZIBAR AND MOMBASA—Via Singapore and Colombo.

CHICAGO MARU Tuesday, 31st January.
CALCUTTA—Via Singapore, Penang and Rangoon.

SEATTLE MARU Friday, 27th January.
KASADO MARU Saturday, 26th February.

VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA & VANCOUVER Via Japan Ports.
ARABIA MARU (From Shanghai) Tuesday, 7th February.

HAIPHONG—Via HOIHOW & PAKHOI.
TAIKWA MARU Tuesday, 31st January, 10 a.m.

MENADO MARU Tuesday, 14th February, 10 a.m.
NEW YORK—Via Japan ports, San Francisco & Panama.

JAPAN PORTS
CELEBES MARU Sunday, 5th February.
KEELUNG Via SWATOW & AMOY.

HOZAN MARU Sunday, 29th January, 11 a.m.
MENADO MARU Wednesday, 1st Feb., 10 a.m.

KALJO MARU Sunday, 5th Feb., 11 a.m.
TAKAO Via SWATOW & AMOY.

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S.S. "CITY OF MADRAS" Havre, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg 25th March.

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S.S. "CITY OF DUNKIRK" via Suez Canal 20th April.

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KHYBER	9,114	18th Feb.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
NELLOR	8,853	25th Feb.	Marseilles & London
KIDDERPORE	6,524	20th Feb.	Straits & Bombay
MACEDONIA	11,120	3rd Mar.	Marseilles & London
KHIVA	9,135	10th Mar.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
KASHMIR	8,985	17th Mar.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
KARMALA	9,128	24th Mar.	Marseilles & London
MANTUA	10,046	31st Mar.	Marseilles & London
KALYAN	9,144	7th Apr.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
MONGOLIA	10,551	14th Apr.	Marseilles & London
KASHGAR	9,005	21st Apr.	Marseilles & London
MALWA	10,986	28th Apr.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
DEVANHA	8,155	5th May	Marseilles & London
MACEDONIA	11,120	12th May	Marseilles & London

* Passengers to Singapore only. Limited accommodation available for 2nd class passengers from Hong Kong to London.
Frequent connection from Port Said for Passengers and Cargo to Constantinople, Piræus, Smyrna and other Levant Ports by steamers of the Khedivial Mail Steamship Co.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS.

SANTHIA	7,754	28th Jan.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TAKADA	6,940	12th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TALAMBA	8,018	26th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta

B. I. Apcar Line steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers. All steamers are fitted with wireless and carry a qualified surgeon.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

TANDA	6,956	2nd Mar.	Manila, Port Holland, Sandakan, ST. ALBANS
ARAFURA	4,500	30th Mar.	Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne.
	6,000	27th Apr.	

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SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

TALAMBA	8,018	30th Jan.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
KIDDERPORE	6,534	2nd Feb.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe
KHIVA	9,135	9th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MACEDONIA	11,120	16th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KARMALA	9,128	23rd Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
TALWA	10,005	30th Feb.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
KASHMIR	8,985	7th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KALYAN	9,144	14th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MANTUA	10,046	21st Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
ST. ALBANS	4,500	28th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
NAGPORE	5,283	4th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MONGOLIA	10,551	11th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MOREA	10,953	18th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KASHGAR	9,005	25th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MALWA	10,986	2nd May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
DEVANHA	8,155	9th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MACEDONIA	11,120	16th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama

* Cargo only.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.

* Passengers for Rangoon must defray their own Hotel expenses at Singapore while awaiting the on-carriage steamer.

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* Steamers on London and Australian Lines are fitted with Laundries.

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S.S. "CITY OF KIMBERLEY"	.. Via Suez Canal	20th Feb.
S.S. "LYCAON"	.. Via Suez Canal	27th Mar.
S.S. "CITY OF ADELAIDE"	.. Via Suez Canal	24th Mar.
S.S. "RHESUS"	.. Via Suez Canal	31st Apr.
S.S. "CITY OF DUNKIRK"	.. Via Suez Canal	28th Apr.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Panama Canal at Owners' Option Subject to change without notice.

For Freight and particulars apply to:—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE or THE BANK LINE, LTD., Hong Kong.

Hong Kong & Canton: JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., Canton.

LOCAL FREIGHTS.

SLUGGISH MARKET
CONDITIONS.

NEW YEAR PROSPECTS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Just before and during the Chinese New Year the local freight market has been exceedingly dull, to which the number of British, Norwegian and Chinese steamers already laid up in the harbour will testify.

The rates from Saigon to this port and from Bangkok to Hong Kong are far below normal, most of the ship owners having tried in vain to hold out for 40 cents per picul from Bangkok, or 60 cents from Saigon, or 80 cents from Hong Kong, or 90 cents from Saigon to Hong Kong.

A local ship owner succeeded in closing two steamers from Saigon to Hong Kong for approximately 30 cents per picul at the beginning of the month but as a Japanese steamer was closed immediately afterwards for 21 cents per picul the rice merchants at once drew back and endeavoured to get all the other steamers to go for the same ridiculously low rate, in which they have not, up to the time of writing, succeeded.

What the Chinese new year will bring it is very hard to foretell. There will naturally be a lot of movement in the market, but in account of the large rice crop in Kwangtung and other provinces in South China during the last year, the internal strife in these parts, and also because of Singapore having been a very heavy buyer of rice for the last three months, it can readily be understood that these various factors do not tend to make the prospects of good freight rates consistive any too promising for the local ship owners, at least for the immediate future.

This is all we can say about the coast trade at present, except that no rice has lately been shipped from Haiphong, and very little coal from that port or from Hong Kong for Hong Kong or Shanghai. The reason for this is that many of the native Chinese mines have reopened again, so that they do not need so much of the Indo-Chinese coal; furthermore a good deal of the machinery at the coal plant in Hong Kong was damaged considerably by last year's typhoon, and the plant has, as far as we can learn, not yet been restored to full working capacity.

Rates for coals from Indo-China to Hong Kong or Shanghai are therefore ridiculously low, and some steamers have had to close at as low as \$2.80 per ton from Hong Kong to Hong Kong, and about \$3.25 from Haiphong to Amoy or Shanghai, which must be considered as cut-throat rates, which the ship owners will only take in an emergency when no other cargo is offering. Of fixture over the weekend we have heard of only one, namely a small Norwegian coaster, which has been laid up at Stonecutters for some time, which was closed with salt for one trip from Hon Koh to Hong Kong and Canton, but the rate is unknown and furthermore quite irrelevant to local shipping conditions considered as a whole, because one of these salt charters is generally closed about every fortnight or so and this trade is naturally quite independent of the rice and the coal trades.

FOG SMASH.

TEAR IN SHIP'S SIDE IN
MERSEY COLLISION.

One man was killed and three were seriously injured in a collision between the steamers Ravenspoint and Zealand off the Mersey Bar in a dense fog on Dec. 8.

The bow of the Ravenspoint struck the Zealand amidships, smashing through the plates and tearing a hole 12ft. in diameter.

Water poured into the engine-room where Donkeyman Stapleton, King's Lynn, trapped, was drowned.

Chief Engineer Rennie, Bootle, got clear at the cost of severe burns and scalds. The others injured were Fireman Carvill and Steward Arnell.

The Zealand's crew jumped aboard the Ravenspoint before the two vessels parted. The Ravenspoint was able to make dock under her own power with badly damaged bows. The Zealand drifted away and went aground.

By dint of pumping and lightening, it is hoped to get the Zealand back into dock to-day.

The Ravenspoint and the Zealand are steel screw steamers of 1767 and 1718 gross tons respectively.

The Ravenspoint is owned by the Atlantic and Eastern Steamship Company, and the Zealand by the Leith Hull and Hamburg Steamship Company. The port of registry in both cases is Liverpool.

NEW 10,000 TON CRUISER.

Laid down in October, 1924, at the works of Vickers (Limited), and built from the designs of Sir E. H. Tennyson d'Eyncourt, the new cruiser Cumberland, of the Kent Class, was commissioned on December 8 by Captain A. L. Snagge for her official acceptance trials on delivery from the builders.

She is designed to steam 3 1/2 knots per hour, and is equipped with eight 8in. four 4in. anti-aircraft, and four 5.5in. gun. The "Cumberland" is coming out of China.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

Destination	Steamer	Sailing
Tiau via Swatow & Shanghai	FOOSHONG	Sun., 29th Jan., at 7 a.m.
Tiau via Swatow & Shanghai	KWONGSANG	Wed., 1st Feb., at 7 a.m.
Tiau via Swatow & Shanghai	CHAKSANG	Sun., 5th Feb., at 7 a.m.
Tiau via Swatow & Shanghai	KWANGSANG	Wed., 8th Feb., at 7 a.m.
Tientsin	CHIPSING	Mon., 30th Jan., at 5 p.m.
Osaka via Amoy, Shanghai	LAISANG	Thurs., 31st Jan., at 7 a.m.
Moji & Kobe	FOOKSANG	Mon., 13th Feb., at 7 a.m.
Osaka v. Amoy, Moji & Kobe	CHAKSANG	Sat., 24th Feb., at 10 a.m.
Straits & Calcutta	KUMSANG	Thurs., 2nd Feb., at 3 p.m.
Straits & Calcutta	KUMSANG	Satur., 4th Feb., at 3 p.m.
Straits & Calcutta	KUMSANG	Sun., 12th Feb., at 3 p.m.
Sandakan	HINSANG	Satur., 24th Jan., at 3 p.m.
Sandakan	MAUSANG	Wed., 8th Feb., at 3 p.m.

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FOR MANILA, ILOILO & CEBU.

S.S. "OAKRIDGE" 8th February.

S.S. "WEST HIXTON" 28th February.

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Telephone Central 4871.

MOUNTAINOUS SEAS.

LINER'S STORMY VOYAGE
FROM NEW YORK.

The Anchor liner "Caledonia" arrived at Glasgow on December 13 from New York 36 hours late. Her commander, Captain Collie, stated that in the crossing the worst storm of his sea experience was encountered.

A whole gale arose, and for three days the vessel, with 800 passengers on board, ran before it. They were compelled to heave to with mountainous seas leaping up behind them, and thus they remained for nine hours.

Captain Collie paid a tribute to the calm conduct of the passengers, who, he said, passed the time playing bridge and whist.

CONSIGNEES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

"ELLERMAN" LINE.

From EUROPE.

THE Steamship "CITY OF MADRAS" having arrived, Consignees of Cargo by her are informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra-hazardous Godowns of Hol's Wharf, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after 1st February, 1928, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Under-signed on or before 8th February, 1928, or they will not be recognised.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on any Tuesdays or Fridays, between the hours of 10.45 a.m. and Noon, within the Free Storage period of One Week.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be counter-signed by

THE BANK LINE, LTD.

General Agents.

Hong Kong, 27th January, 1928.

SERVICES CONTRACTUELS DES
MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

CONSIGNEE NOTICE.

THE Steamship "DARTAGNAN" BRINGING CARGO from Marseilles, etc., also cargo from Bordeaux and Cognac ex s.s. "ROLLON" and cargo from Havre ex s.s. "MEINAM."

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All claims must be sent in to me on or before MONDAY, the 30th January, 1928, or they will not be recognised.

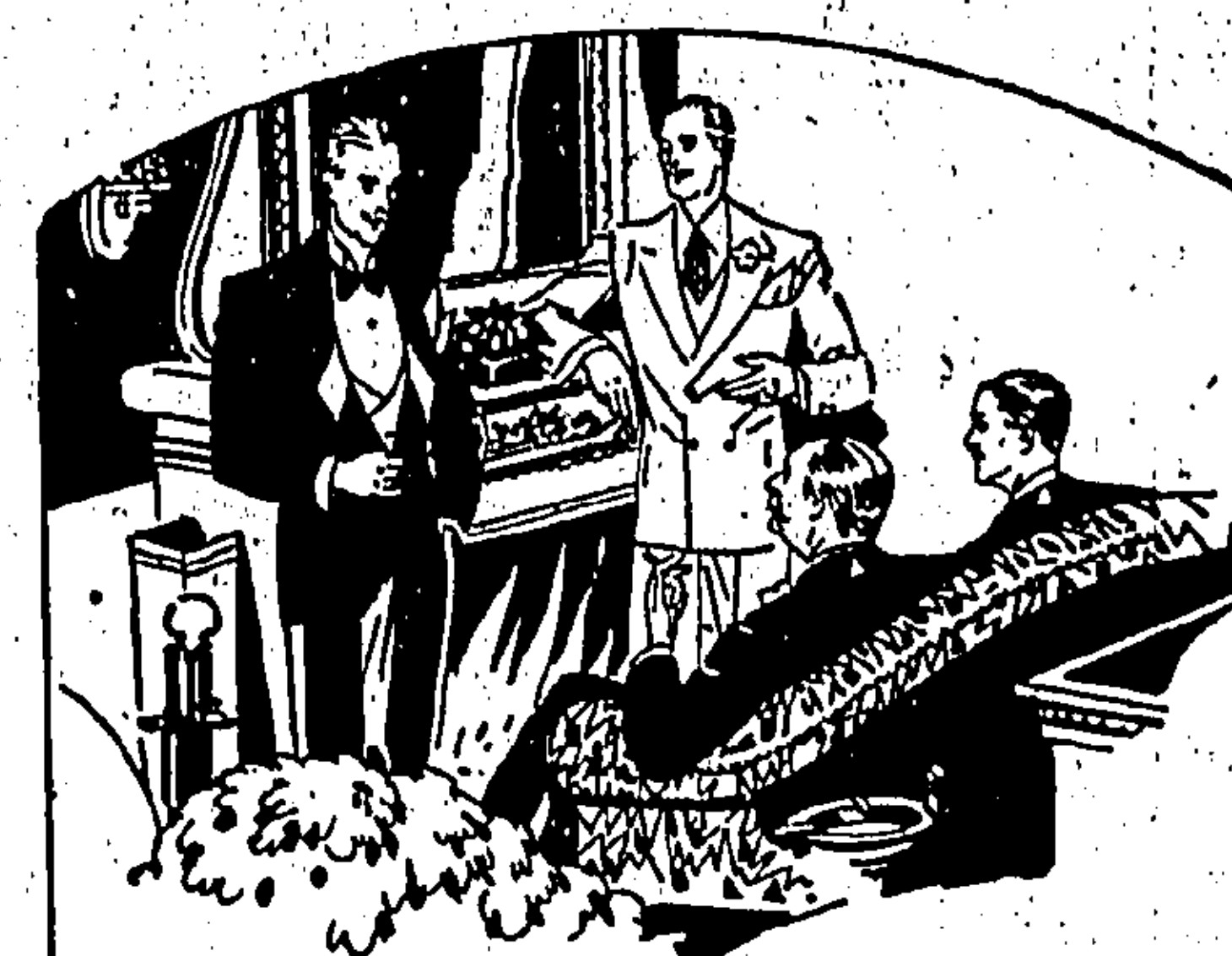
DAMAGED PACKAGES will be examined by the Company's Surveyor Messrs. Goddard & Douglas in the presence of the Consignees at 10 a.m. on THURSDAY, the 26th January, 1928.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

J. LIMAGE.

Agent.

Hong Kong, 20th January, 1928.



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The great frequency of sailings and the liberal stopover privileges of the Dollar Steamship and American Mail Lines have made these giant passenger liners outstandingly popular among travelers.

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Pres. Hayes Feb. 26th 8 a.m.

Pres. Polk Mar. 11th 8 a.m.

Pres. Adams Mar. 25th 8 a.m.

Pres. Garfield Apr. 8th 8 a.m.

To MANILA

Pres. Wilson Jan. 29th 6 a.m.

Pres. Madison Jan. 31st 6 a.m.

Pres. Pierce Feb. 6th 6 p.m.

Pres. Van Buren Feb. 12th 8 a.m.

Pres. Jackson Feb. 14th 6 p.m.

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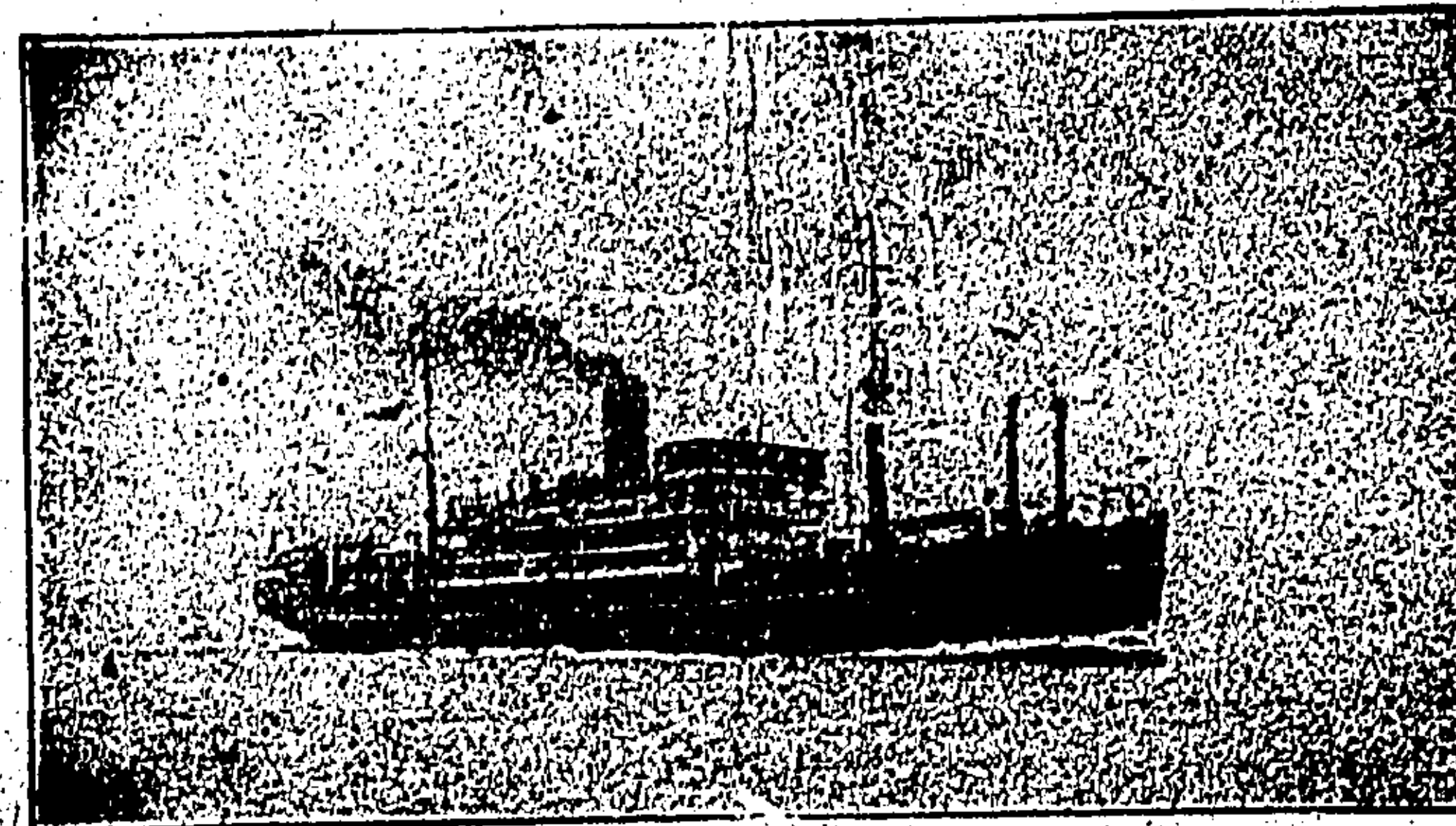
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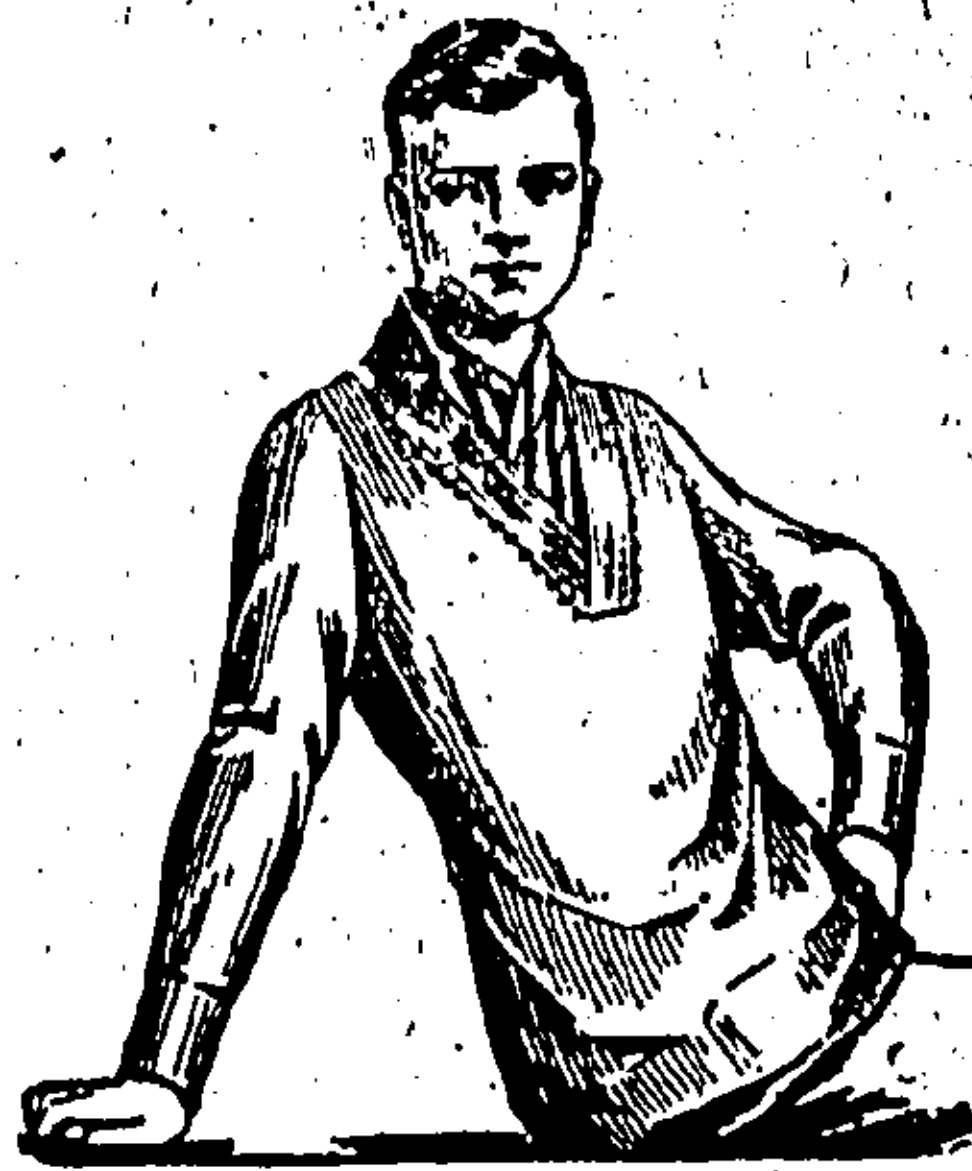
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Hong Kong, Friday, Jan. 27, 1928.

GOING TO THE DOGS.

Shanghai will be sorry to hear that Tientsin is sorry that greyhound racing is to be introduced into the Model Settlement. It is not Tientsin, however, that is really sorry; it is the editor of the "Peking and Tientsin Times," though this is almost the same thing. He is sorry that the poor Chinese of Shanghai are going to the dogs, that they are to be given further opportunities to gamble and become more wicked. It would, he considers, be more appropriate in a city which for several years past has been living on a volcano, to restrict rather than augment the facilities for gambling, and he points to the awful consequences that will follow the institution of greyhound courses. "The British Government," he says, "will soon be asked in Parliament whether the Defence Force has been despatched to, and retained in, Shanghai for the purpose of protecting greyhound racecourses, and thus encouraging gambling among the Chinese population." Of course the British Government may be asked this, but what does it matter? All sorts of silly questions regarding China are being asked in Parliament on almost every day of the week.

Not content with this warning regarding what may be said at Home, this editor from his nice little office in goody-goody Tientsin sternly reminds us that gambling in any form is an offence under the Chinese penal code. This consideration he has the good sense to see, however, is not one which will weigh over much with the wicked racecourse promoters or the poor Chinese who

are to be lured away from their money, for he admits that gambling is winked at on racecourses and even connived at. He goes so far as to say that it cannot be suppressed while human nature remains what it is. Which is unfortunate.

Other arguments of a general nature are advanced by this editor. In one place, for instance, he regrets that hound racing should have been extended to China when the problem is causing the British Government at Home such grave concern. In another he asserts that the chasing of an electric hare is a travesty of sport. His regard for the morals of the Chinese of Shanghai, however, has, in this respect, proved of no avail. He railed in the first instance at the proposed constitution of the course in the French Concession, the Champ de Courses Francais. Since then he has been advised of the existence of the Greyhound Association (China) Ltd., which has been alive for some time. This has acquired property in the International Settlement, and our poor editor is faced with the prospect of seeing five courses established in Shanghai. What he will do about it we cannot say, though the least we may expect is a specially inserted chapter on the evil in the next issue of his Year Book!

CORRESPONDENCE.

ALLEGED INCONSISTENCIES OF THE LAW.

(To the Editor of the "China Mail.")
Sir,—My little knowledge of the law coupled with what experience I have gained of the Press in two continents tempts me to draw public attention to recent inconsistencies in the Colony's Police Courts.
Firecrackers: The learned Senior Magistrate states that he is not in sympathy with Police prosecutions for alleged infringements of the firecracker regulations during the China New Year period. In spite of such discouragement I submit that the Police policy is much too weak for prevailing conditions.

From what has transpired, as reported in the Press, the Police Department appears to have paid only scanty attention to a nuisance which has grown into an evil.
As a resident of over thirty years' standing, I had occasion for the first time in my life to ask for Police attention to a number of young men who for several hours threw lighted firecrackers from the street to the level of my verandah and thereby made life intolerable. Within a quarter of an hour following my report the nuisance was abated. Several hours later I was driven out of the house by a recurrence of the nuisance.

In the street I witnessed two police officers on point duty actually firing crackers in company with youths and small boys. My complaint is not directed at them.

I saw in more than ten different places the actions of dangerous individuals. These persons persistently threw lighted firecrackers at women and girls who passed by; or for sheer devilry directed their missiles, either from the street, pavement or verandahs, at unfortunate people who walked into range before the explosion.

At the junction of the Central and Western Praya I witnessed two attempts, happily unsuccessful, to throw lighted firecrackers into passing motor cars.

I beg to concur with Mr. Lindell's view that indiscriminate prosecution is unwarranted, especially in cases where firecrackers (in long strings or squibs) are lighted purely for ceremonial or religious motives; but encouragement of the ubiquitous youngster bent on mischief is dangerous to the public at large. Why did not the Police pay more attention to the latter category? Arrests on most straightforward facts were being made and were yet ignored by officers on duty.

Whether my letter proves of any avail or not, I humbly pray that Police or Fire Department experts will inquire into the components of firecrackers on sale. This year there seems to have been a concentration on the part of manufacturers to increase the strength of the explosive substances in firecrackers, with all the more noise, the longer range, and the greater danger of hurting people. The louder the effect, the more attractive the selling product—seems to have been the policy followed.

I ask you, Sir, in all seriousness to say when does crackling for bona-fide celebration or ceremonial purposes cease to be a legalised necessity and becomes an evil, a nuisance and a danger to others.

I have just as much right to live in a street as persons who burn firecrackers. How far are they entitled morally and legally to go before they infringe the law? I purposely say "infringe the law" because consideration for others is not so easily definable.

Gambling: Sound common sense tells one that most Chinese have a flutter at New Year. The view taken by the learned Magistrate at Kowloon, Mr. W. Schofield, is highly commendable.

Mr. Lindell, as the Senior Magistrate, has previously expressed the opinion that the essence of the Gambling Ordinance is not whether the game complained of is one purely of chance—as distinct from those with an element of skill—but whether the premises, taking into view all the attendant circumstances, constitute a common gaming house with possible benefit or gain to the keeper(s) and/or other persons.

Such an opinion is not only broad-minded and fair but also typical of British justice. Yesterday a case came up before the Senior Police Magistrate, Major C. Willson, O.B.E., where about a dozen Chinese pleaded guilty to playing pai kau in a shop in the central district. It was not denied that the assembly of the defendants, who all had good employment, arose out of the usual New Year festive spirit.

Yet His Worship imposed fines of \$50 and \$25 respectively on two of the defendants for being "keepers of a common gaming house."

This so-called gaming house depends almost entirely on European patronage, was on the ground floor of a busy thoroughfare and accessible to anybody who wished to make a purchase. Can Police energy in this direction be reconciled with magisterial disapproval of firecracker prosecutions? Add to this a comparatively heavy fine by the Bench and the inconsistency is complete.

But only last Christmas Mr. Lindell exercised his discretionary power and dealt very leniently with a defendant—up for something which in the moral code is more serious than playing pai kau—merely because it was the day before the festive season of Christmas.

I beg, Sir, to enclose my card and apologise for occupying your time and space.

Yours, etc.,
PERPLEXED.
Hong Kong, Jan. 27.

An Ipoh correspondent states that a fire at Strathfield Estate, Jelapang, gutted the smoke house containing rubber valued at \$10,000.

Mr. E. T. M. Lias, Senior Master Raffles Institution, Singapore, who had been spending a holiday in Penang with Mrs. Lias, returned to the Southern Settlement by the ss. "Kinta."

LADY BOUNTIFUL.

\$200,000 TO HELP SCOTS STUDENTS.

PRINCELY BENEFACTIONS.

The will of the late Mrs. Marryat, sister of the late Sir James Caird, Bt., of Dundee, and heir to his large fortune, provides for the following public bequests:—

\$100,000—To the Town Council of Dundee, to be funded, and the income utilised in the acquisition of land in or around the boundaries of the city of Dundee.

\$200,000—To a separate trust for the foundation of travelling scholarships in engineering, electricity, aeronautics, and music, to be eligible only to natives of Scotland.

\$20,000—To the Caird Jubilee Nurses' Home, Dundee.

\$5,000—To the Royal Dundee Institute for the Blind.

The will provides that the residue of Mrs. Marryat's estate shall be divided into two parts, the one half paid to the governors of Dundee Royal Infirmary, to be funded for the purposes of that institution and of the Sidlaw Sanatorium, while the other half is directed to be paid to and among such institutions and schemes for the benefit of Scottish soldiers and sailors disabled in war as her trustees shall decide.

These dispositions by Mrs. Marryat are the last of a series of princely benefactions to the city of Dundee during recent years by Mrs. Marryat and her brother (Sir James Caird), which totalled over \$400,000.

ETIA'S FOLLY.

WAITER ASKS FOR LOAN OF
£2 ON \$5,000 BRACELET.

HE MISSED THE BOAT.

Etia Novello (37), an Italian waiter, is rather an unlucky fellow. He is now wishing he knew more about diamonds.

He picked up a diamond bracelet at a London club. The bracelet was worth about \$5,000. Going to a jeweller, Etia asked him for a loan of £2 on the bracelet.

That set things going, of course, and at Marlborough Street Police Court, London, Novello was sent to prison for two months.

What is making Etia more crestfallen than ever, however, is that an advertisement appeared in various newspapers offering a reward of £450 for the recovery of the bracelet.

The bracelet belonged to Mrs. Arthur Bendir, who is a well-known racehorse owner.

SEAMAN CHARGED.

FALSE PRETENCES
ALLEGED.

At the Central Magistracy before Major C. Willson this morning, a Chinese seaman named Ho Tin (32), whose address is given as No. 50, Hollywood Road, second floor, was charged on two counts of attempting to obtain money from two Chinese women by false pretences.

The first charge was that the accused on divers dates between December 29, 1927 and January 25, 1928, at No. 32, Hollywood Road, first floor, pretended to the complainant (So Kiu) that he had been authorised by three Chinese (relatives of the complainant) who are detained at Shanghai, to collect \$4,000 to pay for the release of the three detained men.

The second charge which was similarly worded, alleges that the accused on divers dates between December 29, 1927, and January 22, 1928, at No. 17, Staunton Street, second floor, attempted to obtain \$4,000 from the complainant (Chan Luk) on the same pretext.

Accused claimed that he had been authorised to raise the money. Detective Sergeant Donovan, who prosecuted, applied for three days' remand pending the arrival of "vital witnesses" from Shanghai, who are due here to-morrow.

The accused was accordingly remanded for three days in police custody.

KNEES OF FATE.

LORD HEWART'S ALLUSION
TO "FLAPPERS" VOTE.

Lord Hewart, the Lord Chief Justice, speaking at a dinner given in his honour by the Manchester Reform Club, said, "As for the extension of the franchise—well, you remember that Homer, when he refers to future uncertain events, says that they be upon the knees of the gods. I suspect that if Homer were alive to-day he might perhaps be tempted to reconsider his phrase, and to say that they lie upon the

P'RAP'S-P'RAF3NOT!

There are links of faith and hope at Fanning this week.

An elderly man was cycling down the street when a dog rushed across the road and, getting under the front wheel, threw him on the ground in a sitting position.

Immediately a crowd collected, and the dog, excited by so many people, rushed round and round the cyclist, seeming to enjoy it.

"Did you have an accident or something?" asked one of the audience.

"Oh, no," retorted the old fellow. "I threw myself down so that I could play with the dog!"

The steamer was crossing the Channel, and the sea was very choppy. One of the stewards noticed an old lady looking very pale and leaning against the rails.

"Come below, mother," he said kindly. "Your teeth are chattering with cold."

The old woman looked at him sternly, and replied:—
"Don't tell lies, laddie; my teeth are in my pocket."

"What's good for my wife's fallen arches?"
"Rubber heels."

"What shall I rub 'em with?"
A burly navvy, with a mate, boarded a first-class carriage on the London district railway.

A pompous elderly man, complete with spats, "muttonchops," and toppler, by whom they squeezed themselves into a seat, peered at them dubiously over his glasses, and at last said, with a slight cough:—

"Er, this is a first-class carriage."
"Good!" replied the other, without even deigning to look round. "Me and my mate feel first-class this morning."

And an ordinary, genial, third-class grin appeared on every face in the compartment.

"Good morning!" said the film producer, and noticed that his visitor had a cast in her eye.

"And what can I do for you?"
"I read in the paper that you're going to do a new film, said the visitor, "and I wondered whether you'd let me play the pleading part."

"I am sorry," returned the producer, "but I am afraid the cast in your eye precludes that."

"Rubbish!" snapped the lady. "Give me the leading part and advertise the film as containing an all-star cast."

The vicar made a bad break the other day. At the close of the anthem he rose to preach, and tactlessly chose the text, "Now when the noise had ceased—"

"But the choir got their own back. At the end of the long, prosy sermon they rose and spontaneously burst into the anthem, "And when we awoke from our sleep."

"Well, I wish him luck," said Mr. Jones, the other evening, after reading in the evening paper an account of the wedding of a popular member of the local cricket team, "but," he added, in a ruminating tone, "marriage is very much like cricket."

"Don't be so ridiculous," snapped Mrs. Jones, "but I am afraid you compare cricket to marriage!"
"Why," replied Jones, "it looks so easy to those who haven't tried it."

Lady (to little boy crying):
"My little boy, whatever are you crying for?"

Little Boy: "Father beat me!"

Lady: "Beat you! What for?"

Little Boy: "I was doing a crossword puzzle, and the clue was 'Drunk in the afternoon.' I put 'Dad,' and it was 'tea.'"

Warder (entering condemned cell): "There is no hope of a reprieve. What is your last request?"

Convict: "I would like to learn the piano."

A well-meaning pedestrian said to a man who was employed to advertise on the street: "Pardon me, but do you know that your sandwich-boards are turned wrong-side out?"

"Sure I know it," was the snappy reply. "Yer don't suppose I'm going to work in me lunch hour, do yer?"

knees—which are not always invisible—of the goddesses."

Touching on peace Lord Hewart said that after the great blood-letting of the war, they perceived the necessity of discovering beforehand in all goodwill and with careful and patient deliberation, the seeds of possible future conflict in order to remove them for ever.

CANTON OFFICIALS.

STORY OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS.

MONEY FOR CHIANG.

When the case against Wong Chong-chi, a former official of the Central Bank of Canton who is alleged to be a fugitive from that City where he is wanted for the alleged embezzlement of \$1,343,794 was resumed before Mr. Roger Edward Lindsell at the Central Magistracy yesterday afternoon, Mr. H. G. Sheldon, for the Crown, resumed his opening statement of the case against Wong.

Counsel said that the fugitive asked the comptroller of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank in Shanghai to remit the \$180,632 to a man named Sui Sang, a fictitious name. It was to be sent to the Bank of East Asia.

The comptroller was unable to send the money as requested, so he remitted through the Wing Sang Bank \$101,680 and the balance he made up in a parcel which the fugitive asked him to remit to T. V. Soong, of the Central Bank of Shanghai. The comptroller, however, could not do that and the money was then handed to Mr. Doyle, of the Hong Kong Bank.

The Tak Wing Bank here received a letter from the Wing Sang Bank of Canton to pay the sum of \$101,680 to a Mr. Sui Sang of the Bank of East Asia of Hong Kong.

Proceeding, Counsel said that the managing partner of the Wing Sang Bank stated that he obtained the money from Shamen and remitted it to his agents in Hong Kong, the Tak Wing Bank, for the account of the defendant. On the day the money arrived at the Tak Wing Bank a man went to the Bank and said that his name was Sui Sang and that he came from the Bank of East Asia. He added that the money should be delivered as soon as possible. The Tak Wing Bank did that and got a receipt from the Bank of East Asia for the money they paid.

Money Returned. Later in the day, a foki of the Bank of East Asia appeared at the Tak Wing Bank and stated that the money was paid into the Bank of East Asia by mistake and had to be returned. A representative of the Tak Wing Bank proceeded to the Bank of East Asia and the money was returned.

At the Bank of East Asia two men went into the Bank and was seen and interviewed by one of the clerks who knew one of the men and in fact, had been at school with him at Canton. At 12 o'clock that day, the money was received from the Tak Wing Bank and a receipt was given. As soon as the money was received, one of the two men, Chiu Tsi-sang by name, went to the telegraphic transfer department of the bank and signed an application in the name of Sui Sang that the money should be sent in Shanghai dollars to Soong Tze-yang, who is no other than T. V. Soong.

Mr. Sheldon said that there they had the evidence that the man Chiu, well known to the members of the staff of the Bank of East Asia, endeavored to get this money under the name of Sui Sang, which was the name in which the fugitive had asked the comptroller of the Hong Kong Bank to send the money.

The transaction, Counsel said, was looked upon as rather strange by the Bank of East Asia and, after certain interviews, it was refused on the plea that they did not know who this man Sui Sang was. Eventually, after further conversation, the money was sent back to the Tak Wing Bank, the two men agreeing that it should be sent back.

Government Funds. Mr. Sheldon added that the funds of the Central Bank of Canton were in fact the funds of the Government and therefore funds of the taxpayers of Canton.

Speaking of the larceny, Mr. Sheldon said there was evidence that the funds of the Bank were taken out by the fugitive without any authority. They were taken out with intention to deprive the Government and the taxpayer of the money. Mr. Sheldon suggested that the fugitive did the act with felonious intent, either for his own aggrandisement or for the benefit of certain friends.

This closed the opening address. Mr. Potter, addressing his Worship asked if any Judge of the Supreme Court was likely to find the fugitive guilty of larceny on Mr. Sheldon's opening.

They all knew who T. V. Soong was, and according to Mr. Sheldon's statement of the case there was not even a suggestion that the fugitive intended to put a farthing into his own pocket. Counsel emphasized the fact that there was no evidence to show that the fugitive wanted to convert the money to his own pocket, or that what he did was not done as Minister of Finance.

With regard to the carrying of the money to Shamen on the instruction of the fugitive, Counsel said that he could not see where the criminal offence lay. He was also at a loss to understand where the

ACTION FOR £6,000.

ALLEGATION OF WRONGFUL FAILURE TO MAKE A WILL.

"TOOK THE RISK."

Judgment in a unique claim was given by Lord Murray in the Court of Session.

The action was by James Gray Newbigging, of Craighall, Ceres, Fifeshire, against Thomas Johnston, 1 North Wellington Street, Dundee, executor of the late David Johnston, of Burnside, Fifeshire.

Mr. Johnston, who was the owner of a small farm, Burnside, died in March, 1926, and the pursuer claimed to be entitled to £6,000 out of his estate.

The record set forth that the pursuer and Mr. Johnston were old and intimate friends, and at one time fellow-employees of a limited company. Mr. Johnston, in 1903, after an illness, through which the pursuer assisted in nursing him, gave up his employment and went to reside on the farm which he had purchased.

In February, 1910, after the death of his wife and mother, Mr. Johnston, who was childless, proposed to the pursuer that he should give up his situation, go to reside at Burnside, and look after Mr. Johnston and the farm; also that, if the pursuer did so, Mr. Johnston would make him his heir, and leave him everything.

"Services of Great Value."

The pursuer took three months to consider the proposal, and finally, induced by the representations made by Mr. Johnston, decided to accept it, and in April, 1910, gave up his situation and went to reside at Burnside with Mr. Johnston.

He remained for about 16 years until Mr. Johnston's death. He acted as Mr. Johnston's companion, attended to his comfort, nursed him when ill, and assumed the management of the farm, as also of a small sheep-farm which was subsequently leased.

His services were given without remuneration, and were stated to have been of great value, his profitable management having been the source of practically the whole estate of which Mr. Johnston died possessed. Mr. Johnston died intestate, he having, in spite of his representation, "wrongfully failed to make a will in favour of the pursuer."

Lord Murray held that the action was irrelevant and dismissed it. After a review of certain previous cases cited to him, his Lordship said the pursuer was content to remain outside of contract, and, in the hope that things would end to his advantage, "took the risk." This would not found a claim for recompense.

The Rt. Rev. E. L. Danson, Bishop of Labuan and Sarawak, and Mrs. Danson left England by the "Kashima Maru" on December 31, and hope to spend a week in Penang on the way out.

felonious intent came in. The case, he said, was a travesty and put it to his Worship "fair and square": "Do you believe there was any larceny? I put it to Mr. Sheldon and Mr. Shenton. I don't suppose they will say there is."

Politics. Mr. Potter added that the matter was nothing more than politics from beginning to end. The fugitive was Finance Minister and he reminded the Court of the possible presumption that every thing was rightly done.

After further argument, Mr. Lindsell indicated to Mr. Sheldon that he must agree that it would be a waste of time for him not to take cognisance of the fact that there is a party of the Government of Canton at Shanghai.

Mr. Sheldon said that the Government of Canton had been governed by a body under the chairmanship of Li Chai-sum for two years and that Li Chai-sum was the person in authority uninterruptedly except for a short period in December when by force of arms the "Ironclads" got control of Canton. They then put the fugitive in as governor of the bank for three days. That period in December was the only period that the Li Chai-sum party lost control of the bank.

Mr. Sheldon asked what claim the fugitive had over the bank's money, he being the representative of a "rebel" government.

More argument followed in the course of which Mr. Potter submitted that no matter how Li Chai-sum got into control of Canton, the fact remained that for three weeks he was dispossessed by the "Ironclads," and the point was not "What right had the fugitive to deal with money?"

Mr. Lindsell indicated that he would put the case over until to-day at 2.15 p.m. in order to consider the cases quoted in the course of the legal argument, and to decide whether a case of larceny had been made out at all.

"JACOB'S LADDER."

A FLIGHT OF EXACTLY 699 STEPS.

NOTES ON THE ISLAND.

The number of steps in the ladder cut in the face of the cliff from Jamestown, St. Helena, to the summit of Ladder Hill is exactly 699. This ladder ascends to the height of 620 feet and is 923 feet in length. It is known as "Jacob's Ladder," and is situated immediately behind the parish church of St. James.

The ladder runs upwards at a dizzy angle, and the work of ascending these stone steps is so trying that even trained athletes, have to pause several times to take breath. As the steps are rather high, a feeling of muscular cramp is also caused. Many visitors to the island can neither ascend nor descend these steps, for the angle at which they are placed and the height to which they go make these people giddy.

From the sea, St. Helena does not present a very attractive appearance, and on account of this many passengers on ships bound to or from South Africa feel that it is hardly worth landing. Those who do go ashore only take a cursory look around, for they are not allowed sufficient time to see much of the island. They visit Napoleon's house, Napoleon's grave, "Jacob's Ladder," learn that no motor-cars are allowed in St. Helena and return to the ship. Presently the sterile-looking cliffs that rise several hundred feet sheer out of the sea, and all the rare beauties they hide are left far behind, and the island drops slowly out of sight.

St. Helena measures about 10 miles by 7 miles. So far as is known, the first people to visit it were the Portuguese, who, arriving on the birthday of the mother of Constantine the Great, named the island after her. This was in 1502. After that St. Helena changed hands several times. The Portuguese held it until the last decade of the sixteenth century, when the Dutch took it and retained it until 1651. The East India Company were in possession for the next 21 years, when the Dutch recaptured it and held it for almost a year. Then Sir Richard Munden got hold of the island again, and it has since been a British possession.

Important Industries. The exports from St. Helena are flax, fibre, and tow. Previously the principal industry was providing for the garrison, but when, about twenty years ago, this was withdrawn, the threat of starvation was staved off by adopting this flax industry. There are several mills in different parts of the island, and a rope factory has now begun work.

Other important industries that have been established successfully in St. Helena are bead and lace making. The Government has interested itself so far in this that it has established a lace school, which is situated in the old Mess House of the garrison. Excellent fruit and vegetables are grown in the island, but at present only sufficient for local needs is raised. The soil is of volcanic origin and very fertile, and it should be possible to start growing fruit for export.

The only indigenous flora is that on Diana's Peak, the highest point in the island. It is recorded however, that when St. Helena was discovered almost its entire surface was hidden by trees. The islanders tell many strange stories of those far-off days. Many people are believed to have entered those forests and never returned, while others came back with wonderful stories of marvellous adventures.

The island is divided into two portions by a central ridge and the scenery to the south of this is at times very grand. From here can be seen such basaltic columns as that known as "Lot," which rises above the sea to a height of about 1,400 feet. There is much in Sandy Bay to hold the interest. This inlet is believed to have been formed out of the crater of an extinct volcano, and there are many indications in support of this supposition.

Features of Jamestown. Jamestown, the capital, with a population of about 3,500, contains a sort of memorial to the South African War in the old camps in which the Boer prisoners were kept. In the lower part of this town there are the strongly-built walls, gates, and archways of the old fortifications, and also the old Castle, or Fort. The wide and medieval-looking moat of this Castle is now used for growing bananas.

Government House is known in St. Helena as Plantation House. It has been built some 1,800 feet above sea level, and is about 3½ miles from Jamestown. The road to it climbs steadily upwards, and skirts a side of the valley in which the little town is placed. Plantation House has an attractive exterior. It is built of white stone,

CINEMA NOTES.

"BEN HUR."

Special Booking Counter Opened.

A special booking counter has been opened for "Ben-Hur" in the lobby of the Queen's Theatre and seats can now be reserved here for the entire season. The picture begins a run of eight days on Monday. Owing to its exceptional length there will be only three performances daily, starting promptly at 2.30, 8.00 and 9.15. Cinema-goers who intend to see this famous film would be well advised to book their seats early, as there are sure to be record houses daily. Prices of admission are as follows:—At 2.30, 1.50, 1.00, 60 cents and 40 cents; at 8 p.m. and 9.15, 2.00, 1.50, 80 cents and 60 cents.

"THE IRRESISTIBLE LOVER."

Norman Kerry, star of many screen dramas, will be seen for the first time as a full fledged comedian in "The Irresistible Lover" which a special advertisement in to-day's issue announces will be the chief picture at the Queen's Theatre on Sunday. Kerry is starred with Lois Moran in the picture which was directed by William Beaudine. The supporting cast embraces Gertrude Astor, Myrtle Stedman, Lee Moran, Arthur Lake, Phillips Smalley and a host of others. "The Irresistible Lover" will be screened for the one day only, "Ben-Hur" starting on Monday.

Major J. M. Mackenzie, D.S.O., Royal Scots, has taken over command of the Straits Settlements Volunteer Force vice Lt.-Col. Postlethwaite.

A Chinese in Singapore was charged with being in unlawful possession of a revolver and ammunition and was sentenced to three years rigorous imprisonment and twenty strokes of the rattan.

and is double storeyed. The interior is cool and spacious, and in all there are about 40 rooms, several of which contain Napoleonic furniture. The grounds are 176 acres in extent and have many exotic trees and shrubs. The house dates back to 1791.

The Jamestown Public Gardens are near the Castle and among the trees, shrubs, and flowers there is a fountain and pond with water-lilies and little gold fish. The Public Library has been placed on one side of these gardens, and on the other side there is a small museum.

The island has a very healthy climate, and although at Jamestown there are few variations, at other parts there are great differences in the temperature. During the cooler months considerable light rain falls, but weather conditions on the whole are tropical. Water is obtained from 200 clear and pure springs, and is always abundant.

The cost of living is very low in St. Helena, and house rents are never exorbitant, but in spite of this there is a great deal of poverty there. During the very bad seasons a soup kitchen is opened at the Fort, but even when a spell of prosperity blesses the island many of the children beg. It seems to be a habit there, for many of those who hold out beseeching hands to passers-by are not in actual want.

Facilities for Sport. Fish is always plentiful at St. Helena, and it is the custom for the more energetic in times of need to throw in their lines from the rocks under the west of Ladder Hill. The ordinary supply of fish on the island is obtained from the regular fishing boats. Most of these fishermen are expert boatmen, and their services are in great demand in those whaling fleets that occasionally stop here. The best known of the many fish caught off St. Helena are albacore and cavalli.

A certain amount of sport is to be enjoyed on this island. The pheasant and partridge shooting here is very good, but this only attracts a small proportion of the population of the island. These people, however, are very fond of concerts and amateur theatricals, and many of them seem to have considerable talent in this direction.

The St. Helena people are so fond of football and cricket, that those days upon which matches are played are looked upon almost as public holidays. In the evening, after a match has been played, the capital dons its festive attire and the winning team is given demonstrations of fireworks and similar displays. Other games for which the Sports Club caters are golf, tennis, polo, and bowls. The island also supports a weekly newspaper, the "St. Helena Guardian," and until recently had a station of the Eastern Telegraph Company—W. L. Speight in the "Weekly Scotman."

Shadows Before.

COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCED IN THE "MAIL."

To-day—Queen's Theatre; Buster Keaton in "College."

To-day—World Theatre; "Gold Rush."

To-day—Star Theatre; "The Wedding Song."

To-day—At the Star Theatre; Kowloon, Academia de Liceo Central's Concert, 7.15 p.m.

To-day—Cheong Y.M.C.A.; Concert and Dance, 7.30 p.m.

January 28—Cheong Y.M.C.A.; Impromptu Concert, 7.30 p.m.

January 29—Queen's Theatre; "The Irresistible Lover."

January 29—Cheong Y.M.C.A.; Musical Evening, 7.30 p.m.

January 29—Star Theatre; "The Desert's Toll."

January 29—31—World Theatre; "Way Down East."

January 30—February 6—Queen's Theatre; "Ben Hur."

January 31—February 1—Star Theatre; "The Taxi Dancer."

February 25—Craigengower Cricket Club's annual Bachelors' Dance.

Sports.

January 28—American lawn tennis tourney (mixed doubles) for members of the Ladies Recreation Club at L.R.C.

February 17—Golf Match: Ladies' Bogey Competition at Fanling.

Hughes & Hough's Auction.

March 1—At Auction Room, Ice House Street, valuable leasehold property situate in Peak District, 8 p.m.

Lammers' Auction.

January 30—At 7 Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon, valuable household furniture, 2.45 p.m.

Meetings.

February 7—Twenty-third annual meeting of Union Waterboat Co., Ltd., in the Offices of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., 11 a.m.

February 9—Annual meeting of Humphreys' Estate & Finance Co., Ltd., Hong Kong Hotel, 11 a.m.

Miscellaneous.

January 29—Theosophical Society Lecture, Lane, Crawford's Restaurant.

BANVARD COMPANY.

OPENING AT THEATRE ROYAL SOON.

On Monday, February 6, the Banvard Company will open for a short season in Hong Kong at the Theatre Royal. It is some little while since "Wally" Banvard and his merry-makers were in our midst and this time he promises to bring a company and repertoire better than anything before attempted here. His strong suit is musical comedy, and the plays include "Katja the Dancer," "Mercenary Mary," "Queen High," "Whirled into Happiness," and "Mr. What's His Name." He also has some fine revues to stage here. The artists are mostly from the chief London theatres, some coming from the "No, No, Nanette" and "Rose Marie" companies. Prices here will be \$5, \$3 and \$1 and, for the high class of entertainment that is going to be provided should prove very popular.

"THE GOLD RUSH."

FAMOUS CHAPLIN FILM AT THE WORLD.

The local epidemic of first-rate comedy screen productions seems to have spread from the "Queen's Theatre, for at this resort they are showing now that favourite picture of Charlie Chaplin's known as "The Gold Rush." It is one of the most popular screen efforts of an always popular artist and is drawing good "houses." "The Gold Rush" is not all funny stuff. There are some pathetic passages and altogether it is a picture that any cinema-goer cannot help liking.

FALL OF JERUSALEM.

HOW CITY WAS SURRENDERED TO AN ARMY COOK.

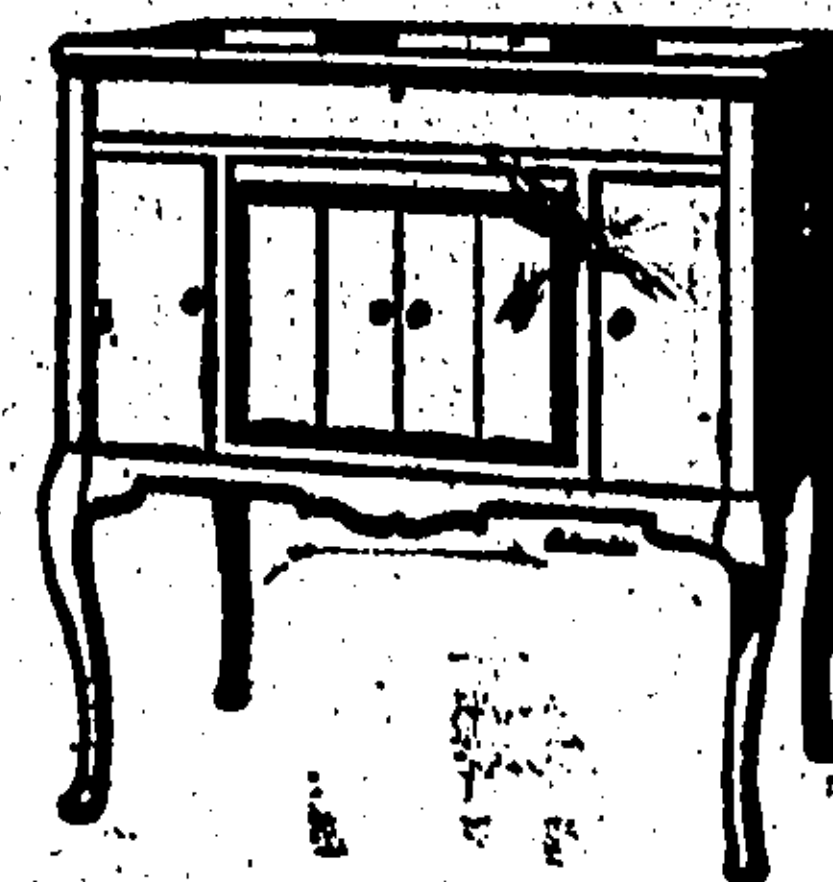
The story is being told of how Jerusalem was surrendered during the war to two cooks of the London Regiment. This version of the surrender of the Holy City was given at the reunion dinner of the 2/20th Battalion London Regiment, to which the two men belonged.

Brigadier-General H. W. Studd, who commanded the 190th Brigade, of which the battalion was a unit before it went to Palestine, gave a similar, though slightly different, version to a Pressman.

The story is known to General Studd, "is that during the action which resulted in the fall of Jerusalem the people who first entered Jerusalem were an orderly and a cook belonging to the 2/20th Battalion.

"When they appeared at the gates the Sydic of Jerusalem offered them the keys of the city, so that really Jerusalem was surrendered to the cook of the 2/20th. The cook did not know it. It was right that he should take the keys, and while they were discussing the matter a patrol came along and the keys were handed to them."

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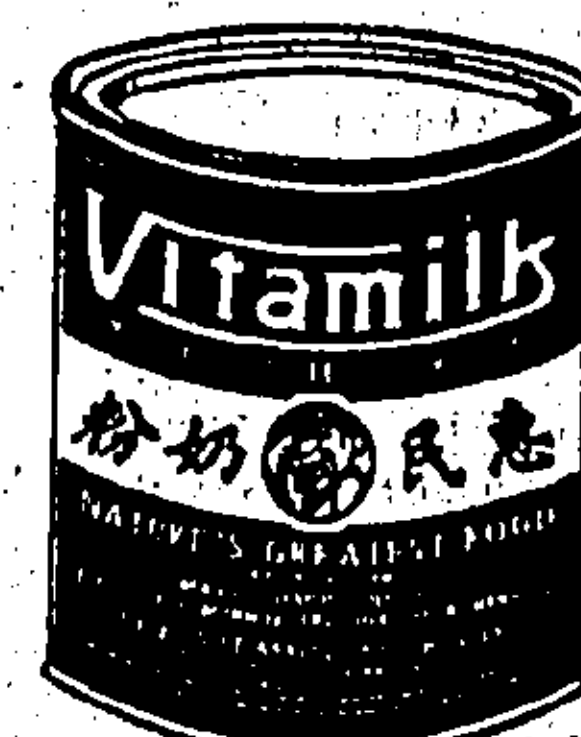
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LOCAL AND GENERAL SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

A passenger service is now in
operation from Fukow to Hsuehchow
on the Tsin-Pa Railway.The annual general meeting of
St. David's Society of Shanghai will
be held on Monday, January 30.Mr. J. L. Humphreys, M.C.S.,
Governor of British North Borneo,
who has been in rather poor health
lately, is coming to Hong Kong.Mr. A. S. Lilburne, of the Raub
Australian Gold Mining Co., and
Mrs. Lilburne have returned to
Raub from their holiday in Europe.Lieut.-Col. F. J. M. Postlethwaite,
O.B.E., late Commandant S.S.V.F.,
left for Home on board the
"Morea," having completed his
service with the Volunteers.Col. Tai Shi-fu, Commissioner
of Public Safety for Shanghai and
Woosung, has issued a proclama-
tion forbidding gambling by the
public during the Chinese New
Year holidays.According to a message from
Saigon, M. Poincare will visit
Strasbourg on February 12 and will
deliver an important political
speech in view of the forthcoming
elections in France.Mr. G. Sturrock has been ap-
pointed Colonial Engineer, S.S.,
with effect from December 30, 1927,
and Mr. F. T. Kinder will act as
Deputy Colonial Engineer, also
from the above date.Mr. and Mrs. F. Hulme Sharp,
who were well known in Penang
during their stay there until shortly
after the war, when they went to
Malacca, arrived in Penang from
Singapore by the "Mata Hari."Mr. Gordon Pentney, who has
been Sales Manager for the last
four years with Messrs. Wearne
Bros. Ltd., Ipoh, has taken over the
management of The Cycle &
Carriage Co., (1926) Ltd., Penang.Kowloon cinema-goers should
note that there will be no movie
performance in the Star Theatre at
9.15 this evening, as The Academia
do Liceu Central will be giving a
concert at that time.The Rev. W. E. Hordley, M.B.E.,
of Ipoh, leaves for Home in March
and will be away some time. He
has been elected delegate for the
Churches in Malaya to the interna-
tional Church Conference in Jeru-
salem in March.A Chinese amah employed by a
European lady won the "big sweep"
at the Penang races, thus breaking
the tradition that these sweep-
stakes should, as a contemporary
puts it, be "so monotonously won
by wealthy men."News has arrived by cable that
Mr. C. Y. Kok, who is reading at
Lincoln's Inn, has passed the exami-
nations in constitutional law and
legal history, and also in criminal
law and procedure. He is the third
son of Mr. Kok Cheong Sun, an old
resident of Pudu who is very well
known in Kuala Lumpur.The death occurred recently of
Mr. E. E. Solomon, the well-known
broker, of De Souza Street, Singa-
pore. He came to Singapore 30
years ago and established himself
as an exchange and share broker.
The news will be learnt with regret
by his many friends and his fami-
ly, as he was a very successful man.
The death occurred recently of
Mr. E. E. Solomon, the well-known
broker, of De Souza Street, Singa-
pore. He came to Singapore 30
years ago and established himself
as an exchange and share broker.
The news will be learnt with regret
by his many friends and his fami-
ly, as he was a very successful man.Divorce proceedings were started
in the U. S. Court for China by
Mrs. Leonard K. Hartigan v.
Leonard W. Hartigan, an inter-
locutory order being granted by
His Honour, Judge Purdy in favour
of the petitioner. Similarly, an
interlocutory order was given peti-
tioner in another divorce action
Bruce S. Jenkins v. Agnes Ida
Jenkins.Before Mr. W. Schofield at the
Kowloon Magistracy yesterday, a
conductor employed by the Kowloon
Motor Bus Company, was charged
with the embezzlement of \$46.55,
which represented the takings on
his bus on January 23. The accus-
ed was alleged to have absconded
with the bag of money after the
day's work. Sentence of six weeks'
hard labour was passed.The annual general meeting of
the Kowloon British School Former
Pupils' Association was held yester-
day, Mr. G. Franklin Nightingale
presiding, when the following offi-
cers were elected:—Hon. Secre-
tary: Mr. Haast. Hon. Treasurer:
Mr. Moses. Committee: Messrs.
Groundwater, Miss E. Woolley,
Messrs. Whitley, Kinross and He-
dley. The problem of the Associa-
tion's future was discussed and it
was decided to continue in exist-
ence for at least another year.Attention is again directed to the
excellent opportunity afforded dur-
ing the past three years by the
University of London in having its
examinations held in Shanghai.
Last week, a matriculation examina-
tion was held at the British Con-
sulate-General, Mr. Cameron
Potter, appointed by Sir Sidney
Barton, Consul-General, acting as
honorary sub-examiner to the Uni-
versity. Examinations leading up
to degrees in Arts, Science, Com-
merce, Law, etc., now can be taken
in Shanghai. The honorary secre-
tary to the University of London
Society in Shanghai is Mr. J. P.
Jones, B.Sc.The Tjong Seng Kok Society of
Singapore has been duly registered.Mr. J. R. Neave, M.C.S., will offi-
ciate as Resident, Labuan, as from
December 28, 1927.The Interport golf dinner is to
be held at Lane, Crawford's
Restaurant on Monday night.Mr. W. L. Blythe, Assistant Pro-
tector of Chinese, Selangor, is be-
ing transferred to Singapore in
February.The marriage arranged between
Mr. Richard Hope Chappell and
Margaret Edith, daughter of Mr.
and Mrs. Cortlandt MacGregor,
will take place at Hong Kong at
the end of February.Mr. C. C. Hawkes, Manager of the
Soremban Branch of E. A. Barbour,
Ltd., and Mrs. Hawkes are shortly
leaving Soremban. They expect to
go on a tour of America. Mr.
Hawkes, of the firm's Penang office,
will take over the management from
Mr. Hawkes.Mr. L. B. P. Sturmer will be
leaving for Sumatra to establish
branches of the Assurance Franco
Asiatique Insurance Company in
the principal towns there. Later
he will proceed to Java and will
take charge of all the branches in
the Dutch East Indies.Princess Der Ling, former lady
in waiting to the late Empress Tzu
Hsi, iron ruler of China for many
years, who declares that companion-
ate marriages are nothing new in
China, for there the custom is cen-
turies old and is one of the many
complicated and variegated marriage
customs.We regret to learn of the death,
at Singapore, General Hospi-
tal, of Mrs. Gertrude Jones,
wife of Mr. J. W. Jones, of the
Pulau Brani Smelting Works.
The deceased was a daughter of
the late Mr. Wemyss, formerly of
Penang, and of Mrs. Wemyss, who
is now at Home. Her sister mar-
ried Mr. H. A. Low, of Adamson,
Giffillan, Ltd.—M. M.A very enjoyable musicale was
held at the Helena May Institute
last evening. The programme was
excellent, and the concert proved to
be the best of the season. There
was a large attendance of music
lovers who thoroughly appreciated
the French modern music which
made up the entire programme.
The artistes all did full justice to
the composers' work.T. J. Falla, a warder, was sued
by another Indian moneylender in
the Summary Court yesterday, for
the sum of \$280, money lent under
a promissory note and an I.O.U.
Mr. Justice Wood held, as in the
previous case (reported in yester-
day's issue), that defendant was
receiving less than \$200 a month
and was therefore protected by the
Public Servants' Liability Ordina-
nce. Plaintiff was therefore non-
sued.A sale of Crown Land was held
at the offices of the Public Works
Department yesterday afternoon
when New Kowloon Inland Lot No.
1119 was put up for auction. The
area is 3,380 square feet, and the
land was knocked down at the
upset price, without any advance
being made, the figure being
\$3,380, or \$1 per square foot.
Messrs. Hui Ka-ting, Ha Ka-pik,
and Hu Ka-tung, of 12, Connaught
Road Central, were the purchasers.Re-sealing of letters of adminis-
tration with the will annexed, in
respect of the estate of the late
Mr. Evelyn Edward de Wivelesio
Abney, late of The Holly Hotel,
Lymington, Essex, who died at 49,
Blackwater Road, Eastbourne,
Sussex, on May 21, 1926, has been
granted to Mr. J. Perrin, at-
torney of Mrs. Florence Bullard
Tod Abney, the widow and re-
siduary legatee. Hong Kong
estate is valued at \$3,500, and gross
estate in Great Britain at £1,983.Evidence was taken by Major C.
Willson at the Central Magistracy
yesterday afternoon in which
Chang Shiu-chui, a Chinese Ser-
geant Interpreter at Central Police
Station, is charged with the theft
of two pieces of clothing belonging
to a Chinese prisoner who was de-
tained in the Police cells on January
6. The case was adjourned until
Thursday afternoon next. Wil-
nesses' deposition yesterday bore
out Mr. P. P. J. Woodhouse's open-
ing statement of the case at the
previous hearing as already report-
ed.Mr. H. T. Pogden is expected in
Malaya shortly to join the Agri-
cultural Department.Mr. Sansom has been appointed
manager of Wearne Bros., Ipoh, in
succession to Mr. "Ted" Keller.Captain Baldwin of the Ameri-
can company, S. V. C. is in Tugulu
and vicinity on a hunting trip. He
is after serow.Major-General E. Gibb, C.B., will
be passing through Singapore on
board the "Macedonia" on January
27 bound for Hong Kong.Mr. M. C. Varughese is joining
the staff of the Brickfields Road
English School, at the Y.M.C.A.,
Kuala Lumpur, from February 1.The Spanish Minister at Peking
is reported by the vernacular press
to have approached the Waichiao
with a view to instituting nego-
tiations for a new Sino-Spanish
treaty.Dr. and Mrs. E. L. Hall gave a
delightful birthday party to Miss
Rosa Brockman and eight of her
friends, at the French Club. All
the guests were students in the
American School, in Shanghai.A large quantity of opium seized
by the Customs and the Shanghai
Municipal Police during the last
quarter of 1927 was burned at the
footing furnaces in the presence
of a number of Chinese and foreign
officials.Sir Malcolm Watson, accom-
panied by Lady Watson, who re-
turned a few days ago from Cal-
cutta, where the former attended
the Seventh Conference of the
Far Eastern Association of Tropi-
cal Medicine, left for Kuala Lum-
pur by the s.s. "Klang."Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd.,
agents for the Dodwell-Castle Line
(James Chambers & Co., Liverpool,
managing owners) have forwarded
a tasteful calendar for 1928 de-
picting one of the wooden ships of
the time of Columbus surrounded
by smaller craft of the period.Should the Colonial Office decide
to send Sir George Maxwell out to
Malaya as Governor and High
Commissioner when Sir Hugh bids
us good-bye, such appointment
would rejoice the people of Malaya
as much as did the appointment of
Sir Hugh Clifford—"T. O. M."Mr. H. B. Roe, of the Hong Kong
& Shanghai Bank, who has for
some considerable time served on
the Shanghai Municipal Council,
has given notice of his resig-
nation. This is due to the
fact that he is leaving for Home
on leave at the end of this month.Before evacuating Ichang, says
the "Sinwanpao," the troops of
Gen. Yang Sen, perpetrator of the
Wanhien outrage, set fire to the
city and burnt several thousand
houses. Hundreds were reported
to have been killed during the indis-
criminate firing by Yang's men or
burned to death.Bishop Crose of Peking and
Bishop Brown of Poochow, sailed
for the United States, to attend the
General Conference of the Method-
ist Episcopal Church, which will
meet in Los Angeles in May.
Bishop L. J. Birney will sail two
weeks later. A group of Chinese
delegates have been appointed and
soon will sail.Mr. A. F. Davies, Assistant Emi-
gration Commissioner, Negapatam,
is paying a short visit to Malaya
before returning to India to act as
Emigration Commissioner at
Madras. Mr. Davis, who first came
to Malaya as a planter in 1895, joined
the Labour Department many
years ago and is a recognised ex-
pert on Tamil labour.The Shanghai vernacular press
describes Judge Paul Myron Line-
berger, whose unconsciously humor-
ous suggestions for the reform of
the U. S. Court for China appeared
in our columns recently, as
"former Federal Judge in Shang-
hai." This is quite incorrect as he
has never occupied a judicial post
in China. He served for some time
as a Federal Judge in the Philip-
pines.Mr. William Wolf, the disabled
American soldier who started from
Los Angeles three years ago on a
walking tour around the world, is
now back in Hong Kong after a
trip to Northern ports and parts of
the interior. As already announ-
ced in these columns, Mr. Wolf is
undertaking his tour for a wage,
and has yet to visit India and
Africa. His stock-in-trade is his
voice, and he pays his way by sing-
ing at the places he visits.Scotland Yard detectives are en-
deavouring to trace an "Arch-
deacon" wearing gaiters and a blue
overcoat, who is alleged to have de-
frauded West End tradesmen by
means of worthless cheques. The
man's activities were first brought
to the notice of the police by a
West End tobacconist, from whom
he obtained cigarettes, all of the
very best brands. In some cases
the "archdeacon" backed up his
cheques by showing bankers' drafts,
with which he said he was about
to open a banking account in
London. It is stated that, among
those deluded in this way was an
experienced solicitor.

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CHINA NEWS, LOCAL NEWS

AND ALL THE NEWS

SEND IT HOME!

The past week has seen the passing of the Old (Chinese)
Year with comparative peace ruling up and down the country.
How the event was celebrated in Peking, Canton and Hong
Kong is set forth in this week's issue of the "Overland Mail."The Kwangsi regime in Canton seems to be settling down;
the only item of interest from that centre during the past few
days has been the report of the capture of 30 Communists near
the city on New Year Eve. These were promptly shot.In the North Gen. Feng Yu-hsiang and his troops are
moving towards the capital, but are at least some 300 miles
from this objective. There has been some fighting; an account
of which appears in the "Overland."Full social, commercial and sporting news, including
special reports from Shanghai on the Interport rugby and
association matches is given in this week's "Overland." Let
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"THE OVERLAND CHINA MAIL."

SPORTS

SOCCER.

Interesting Games On Saturday.

BRIGHT JUNIOR FIXTURES.

The Interport Failure At Shanghai.

[By "Rover."]

Owing to the absence of so many players at Shanghai the Senior League on Saturday is restricted, Recreio and Athletic being out, but despite this there is a fairly good programme of three Senior League games and a full Junior card. The official programme is as follows:—

Hong Kong League Division I. Kick off 4.00 p.m.
 Hong Kong Club v. R.A.F., Club Ground, Valley
 South China v. K.O.S.B. Regt., South China Ground.
 R.A. v. Queen's Regt., Sookumpoo.
 Hong Kong League Junior Division "A." Kick off 2.30 p.m.
 K.O.S.B. Regt. v. R.A., Sookumpoo.
 South China "A" v. Kowloon Res., Kowloon.
 Recreio Res. v. South China "B," South China Ground.
 Hong Kong Club Res. v. St. Joseph's, Club Ground, Valley.
 Chinese Athletic v. University, St. Joseph's Ground, Valley.
 Hong Kong League Junior Division "B." Kick off 2.30 p.m.
 St. Joseph's v. Kowloon, St. Joseph's Ground.
 South China "B" v. Boy Scouts, Kowloon A.F.C.
 Kung Woo v. Chinese Athletic, Recreio Ground, King's Park.
 * Kick off 4.00 p.m.

Some very interesting games are down for decision on Saturday, and at the Club Ground the meeting of the Club and the Royal Air Force should provide a fine match. The Club did well on Saturday last against South China, and have been strengthened forward by the inclusion of Bishop and Smith, the latter a new man who is showing promising form in all back and this Club team should render a good account of themselves. The Air Force will make a welcome re-appearance after a quiet period and much interest will be taken in their form, after their extended rest from League Football.

The R.A. and Queen's match at Sookumpoo should provide a good game with the R.A. a dangerous side just now. Both the Regimental sides are fielding new men and in view of the approaching Shield matches, the form of these teams will be watched with interest.

The South China and K.O.S.B. Regiment match are down for the South China ground newly opened at Caroline Hill, but at present the ground cannot be considered ideal, and the venue may be changed. The game between these two sides should be a bright one, with the Borderers' favourites, although on the last occasion of the Clubs meeting at Sookumpoo, South China sprang one of their surprises by snatching a point. The Borderers should however win this match on recent form.

The Junior programme is a very bright one and Club supporters in addition to seeing two Club teams on view, will also see one of the cleverest sides in the Junior Division. St. Joseph's play good football and although the Club Reserves are putting a good team in the field, St. Joseph's should secure the points, the K.O.S.B. Reserves on form should beat the R.A., but the Borderers' Reserves latterly have not been displaying the form which they showed in the earlier portion of the season and the R.A. strengthened by recent arrivals may provide a good opposition to the Borderers' invincible march. The Kowloon Reserves are a good side and I fancy their chances against South China "A" at Kowloon, while Chinese Athletic should beat the University. Recreio and South China "B" will provide a good fight with very little in the final result.

In the "B" Division St. Joseph's, Boy Scouts and Kung Woo are probable winners in three good games, these Junior games at Kowloon compensating us for the lack of Senior games on Saturday, but which nevertheless should provide good fare for the real football enthusiast.

This defeat of the Southern Chinese XI who were contributing no less than five members to the Hong Kong Interport XI on the following day was a distinct disadvantage to face a practically fresh XI, with the exception of Lai Yai Tong, in the Shanghai Interport XI, and who must have taken the field dispirited by their initial failure.

The result speaks for itself. The Hong Kong XI travelled with only three Reserves, a tactical error, and the weather conditions were as previously mentioned in these notes against the class of players selected. Had the Interport Committee who travelled with the Hong Kong team, had the necessary reserves available, they would have been justified in dropping the whole of the Chinese players who had played on the previous day in a gruelling match, and given Hong Kong a chance, but they did not foresee the possibility of the situation which actually took place, and the seven to nil defeat speaks for itself.

Pending details of the game, we refrain from criticism, but the lack of adequate Reserves to meet the exigencies of the postponed match on Saturday last, and the effect of the Chinese Interport match being played prior to the real Hong Kong v. Shanghai Interport have in our opinion, been the causes of the most disappointing result from a Hong Kong point of view.

CLUB SIDES FOR SATURDAY.

The following players will represent the Hong Kong Club 1st and 2nd XI's on the Club Ground, Happy Valley to-morrow:—
 1st XI v. R.A.F. Kick-off 4 p.m.
 Hong Kong Club 1st XI:—Goal, Rodger; Backs, Lyons, Wallington, Halves, Ralston, Stewart, Watson; Forwards, Taylor Alexander, Smith, Bishop (captain), Simpson. Reserve, Johnstone.
 Hong Kong Club 2nd XI v. St. Joseph's. Kick-off 2.30 p.m.
 H.K. Club 2nd XI:—Goal, Logan; Backs, Vickers, Harlow; Halves, King, Howell, Puncione, Forwards, Rowell, Smith, Trambitsky, White, Parkhurst. Reserves, Wolgemouth, De Kael.

KOWLOON v. POLICE.

The following have been selected to represent the Kowloon 2nd XI in a friendly game with Police on Saturday on Kowloon ground. Kick off at 4 p.m.:—
 Slipper, Wheeler, Dodshon, May, Hedley, Therman, Miles, Northey, Kernick, McKelvie, Muir.
 Reserves:—Vickers and Pile.

LEAGUE GAME.

The following have been selected to represent the Kowloon 2nd XI in a League game with South China "A" on Saturday, on Chatham Road. Kick off at 2.30 p.m.:—
 Wood, Guest, Escro, Roberts, Bliss, Blacklock, Reed, Dunnott, Sparry, Coates, Eastman.
 Reserves:—Nicholls and Hast.

HOCKEY.

LOCALS TO PLAY MACAO.

The following have been selected to play against the Macao Hockey Club on Friday, January 27 at 3.45 p.m. on the University ground:—
 F. L. Tan, M. B. Osman, A. A. Kurnah, E. C. Lim, K. T. Lok (captain), Y. C. Tai, S. B. Yee, K. P. Gan, C. K. Ong, C. W. Lam and Y. Eack.

HOME SOCCER.

FAILURE OF ENGLAND'S TEAM.

THE TROUBLE.

Everybody is talking about the catastrophe which blighted England's international championship hopes at Burnley, a debacle that was much the biggest sensation that has occurred in representative football in many seasons (writes Sam Wadsworth in the "Sunday Chronicle").

People say they are completely puzzled by the English team's failure, not only because the side looked so good on paper but because the eleven was not "together" in the first half and was lacking in life and fervour—national fervour, if you like—and the do-or-die spirit.

Perhaps I can diagnose the trouble more readily than can those who are not, and never have been, players in first-class football; though I must confess the result was a big shock to me as it was to everyone else.

I really thought England had a great opportunity to win the triple crown this season, because last April's victory all concerned with the welfare of English football.

Fatal Nervousness.

I am in no sense a fatalist, though to some extent I believe in luck. The two goals Wales got at Turf Moor had a big element of luck about them, but that is what we have to expect in any kind of game.

Now my version of England's failure is that "everything went wrong." Players know the feeling, though it is not easily put into words, and while such a calamitous result shows as clearly as can be that the side was not good enough, there is much more to be said for the team than appears possible from the outside.

In the first place allowances must be made for the nervousness of the men. I know readers will say: "Why didn't they overcome it by throwing themselves into the game as keenly as the Welshmen did? Then they would have overcome it."

My answer to that is they were every bit as keen as their opponents, just as full of national pride and ambition to do well, but the inspiration, unity, and happy touch simply refused to come. The team could not command these things.

It is not easy to play "picture" football. The blend of any side depends upon so many circumstances that its perfection makes it comparable with a delicate machine, with a fine understanding between every section of it. It is far easier to maintain smooth running than to establish it like starting the engine of your car on a cold day.

Players soon react to circumstances; they would not be human if they did not, and my submission is that England's team failed to overcome an early discovery that they could do nothing right.

"Scrap the Lot!"

Please rid your minds at once of any thoughts of lack of interest on their part. They wanted to play "copybook" football just as much as their opponents, but they were playing individually not collectively. That was why they failed to help each other, could not co-operate properly, could not "find" their man with passes as they wanted to do, and failed to develop their ideas.

There are, I suppose, bound to be several new faces in England's next team, and perhaps fully half the side that played at Burnley will be dropped for the Scottish match. I heard it said recently, "Scrap the lot," but such a judgment is harsh and unjustifiable in spite of the defeat.

K.O.S.B. GYMKHANA.

SUNDAY MEET ON KWANTI COURSE.

NINE EVENTS.

The King's Own Scottish Borderers are holding a gymkhana meeting on the Kwanti steeplechase course on Sunday next. There will be nine events, including straight steeplechases, ladies' bending race, a mule "Derby," musical chairs, and a foxhunters' cup contest over 1 1/4 miles.

In this last event owners must ride, and the following have entered:—
 Mr. M. Bolton's Arterkerkes, Messrs. Elliot, Payne and Morgan's Chung-Ka-Kau, and Senatorship, Mr. A. H. Potts' Craigavad, Mr. L. G. Durlacher's Yellow Shadow, Mr. F. A. Pollock's Alhambra, Mr. G. W. Sewell's Circe, Mr. H. C. Macnamara's James Pigg, Mr. A. A. Miller's Tarzall, Mr. M. D. Erskine's Rupert and Robin, Mr. M. Barne's Pekin, Mr. F. A. Pollock's Bill Brewer, Mr. M. M. Warran's Blotting Paper, Dr. J. Durrant's Drake, Mr. W. T. Stanton's Race Horse.

THE "TOTE."

SIR J. SIMON'S GRAVE SUSPICION.

EXTENSION OF GAMING.

Sir John Simon, M.P., speaking at Heckmondwike, in the Spen Valley Division, referred to the suggested introduction of the Totallator, which he described as "a highly ingenious machine, which combines the qualities of a cash register lightning calculator, and stationary bookmaker." "But what is not everywhere realised," he proceeded, "is that it can only be introduced to this country if we are prepared to repeal an important section of the law which limits gaming and wagering. Moreover, it is difficult to see why, if stationary constructions are permitted in racecourses, they should not be permitted in many other places. The end of this sort of legislation would undoubtedly tend to the encouragement and, I fear, the increase of one of the greatest social evils—the evil of excessive gambling—which, to speak plainly, does almost as much harm in this country as the evil of excessive drinking."

"And, after all, what has the Totallator got to do with the Chancellor of the Exchequer? The tote is no machine for calculating the amount of the National Debt, and the only reason why the Chancellor of the Exchequer is interested in it is because it may be the indirect means of raising public revenue. So would be the establishment of a State lottery with the sale of a lottery ticket every day at every post office. I look with very grave suspicion upon proposals, however ingenious, for new taxes, if these taxes can only be made productive by exploiting the vices and encouraging the weaknesses of human nature."

YACHTING.

THE ATLANTIC RACE ARRANGEMENTS.

Arrangements are being made for a yacht race across the Atlantic, to be sailed next July, for a trophy presented by the King of Spain. The course will be from New York to Santander, a distance of about four thousand miles, and the event is likely to attract many of the finest large yachts of America and possibly one or two Spanish vessels. Among the American craft expected to compete are Guinevere, schooner, 779 tons, Mr. Edgar Palmer; Dauntless, schooner, 804 tons, Mr. H. Wilmer Hannan; Aloha, barque, 974 tons, Mr. A. C. James; and Hussar, schooner, 822 tons, Mr. E. F. Hutton. An attempt is also being made to promote a race for small yachts ranging in size from 35 ft. to 55 ft. waterline length, over the same course, and it is said that syndicates are being formed in America for the purpose of buying or chartering vessels to compete in this division.

The last occasion on which yachts raced across the Atlantic was in 1905, when eleven vessels competed for a trophy presented by the ex-Kaiser.

Recall Old "Generals." All through the first half spectators were asking themselves "When will England make their effort?" Fortunately, there was a revival in the second half, but luck was not with them; the revival was incomplete, and unsatisfying, whereas Wales was conscious of her power and her grip on the game.

Remember that a football match is not merely a foot race. So many things can happen to upset calculations and spoil a player's intentions, no matter how eager and willing he is.

What of the future? The only speck of comfort remaining this season is that interest in the match with Scotland still remains. Nothing can kill it, and if England can find a team to beat the Scots that team will have to be composed of men who have the big match temperament who can go on in the field as unconcerned as if the occasion were of no more importance than a side's match in club practice.

LOCAL CHAMPS.

STOKER LAKE AND BENNETT IN SHANGHAI.

COMING MATCHES.

Shanghai, Jan. 19.
 Fistic followers who have been hearing and reading so much about Stoker Percy Lake of H.M.S. "Durban," lightweight champion of the Crown Colony, will have the opportunity of witnessing the Hong Kong leather pusher in action on Wednesday at the Carlton Auditorium, when he stacks up against Glenn Huckaby of the 4th U.S. Marines.

According to the International Sporting Club management, a wire was received yesterday from Stoker Lake from Nanking, accepting terms to meet the U.S. Marine ace on January 25th and he is expected to arrive here on Friday afternoon.

Not only is this bout expected to attract considerable interest from its international aspect, but also due to the fact that this will afford Shanghaianders an opportunity of seeing how the best lightweight in Shanghai stacks up against the best of Hong Kong, as Huckaby is without question the best in the lightweight class here, although not sporting the title.

A. B. Bennett.

Another Hong Kong champion will make his debut in the 10 round semi-final. This is A. B. Bennett of H.M.S. "Witherington," welterweight title-holder of the Crown Colony, who has been matched to meet Sammy Braunstein of the 4th U.S. Marines. Little is known here regarding the ability of Bennett, but he has been strongly recommended by the Hong Kong Boxing Association who are confident that he can defeat the best that Shanghai boasts. Bennett will have a tough scrap on his hands in meeting Braunstein, but should he vindicate the claims of his Hong Kong supporters and beat the U.S. Marine in his initial scrap, he will probably be lined up for a tussle with Stoker Tom Morrell, unofficial welterweight champion of Shanghai.

Jack Morris.

Considerable interest has been created among local boxing fans by the gossip around town of the arrival of a light-heavyweight boxer who hails from London. This is Jack Morris who recently blew into town and who will probably make his first appearance here on the January 25th card. Just how good Morris is has to be seen, but from press clippings he is reputed to be a two fisted, willing scrapper with a k.o. wallop in his left paw. Among some of the prominent British boxers whom he has met and defeated is Tommy Middleton of London. Morris will probably be seen in action against Kid Andre or Sergt. Hill of the 4th U.S. Marines.

BOXING.

AMATEURS AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

BRITISH TEAM TO ATTEND.
 British amateur boxing will be represented, after all, by a team of boxers at the Olympic Games at Amsterdam this year, and the group of competitors that will be selected promises to be an exceptionally strong one. The Amateur Boxing Association, in view of recent controversies, had passed a resolution not to send out a team, but as a result of the British Olympic Association's decision to be represented, this resolution has since been rescinded. Putting aside all the pros and cons regarding the value of this quadrennial athletic spectacle, this is, in a measure, gratifying news, for the spirit of the game that dominates British sport still sets a standard among sportsmen of other nations, and in no sport is it so apparent and so characteristic as in amateur boxing.

A splendid harvest of fine young boxers is being rapidly raised. During the past two seasons young blood has flowed into the clubs and a great number of new clubs have sprung into being. Almost every big provincial centre now has its police club, almost every secondary school and many of the elementary schools have their boxing aspirants who hope to figure in the finals held in London, and many big business houses have formed separate boxing clubs which have been affiliated to the A.B.A. The Gas Light and Coke Company, B.C. recently met Lyons B.C. in an inter-club tournament, which provided some very fast and fairly skilful bouts, when Lyons B.C. lost by two events to four, the most interesting being that between W. Goulding (G.L. & C.) and H. Baker (Lyons) which Goulding won on the referee's casting vote.

LOCAL CRICKET.

CLUB JUNIORS v. NAVY.

This game takes place to-morrow at the Hong Kong C.C. ground at 2 p.m. The following will represent the Volunteers:—H. Ashworth, H. Burton, O. T. Evans, E. C. Fincher, J. E. Hancock, J. C. Lval, G. D. Mead, O. Moor, H. V. Parker, A. Reid, and E. Zimmerman.

BOXER FUNDS.

ALLEGED MISUSE BY SOVIET.

STUDENTS' PROTEST.

Acting upon reports from educational circles and newspapers in Peking to the effect that the Soviet Ambassador in Peking has been supplying Chang Tso-lin with huge sums of money out of the Russian Boxer indemnity fund for military and political expenditure, the National University Union has dispatched a telegram of protest to the Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs at Leningrad, at the same time forwarding the protest to both the Peking Diplomatic Corps and the Shanghai Consular Body for their perusal.

A translation of the telegram reads: "Lately, we have received reports from educational circles and the Press in Peking to the effect that the Soviet Ambassador there has been wilfully supplying Chang Tso-lin with several millions of dollars out of the Russian Boxer Indemnity Fund for his military and political expenses. 'According to the Sino-Russian Agreement signed by the joint Commission in charge of the Refunded Russian Boxer Indemnity Fund, the entire sum of the Indemnity together with the interest is solely for the purpose of education throughout China and other cultural advancements and not for any other use. This is a solemn pledge between the two countries and is known to the whole world."

"The fact that Chang Tso-lin has been able to establish himself in Peking is a matter of national deploration. But for the Soviet Ambassador, under the pretension of financing the maintenance of the Peking universities, to appropriate huge sums of money out of this fund to help Chang Tso-lin's personal military and political atrocities, is wilfully to prolong China's internal chaos in flagrant violation of the agreement referred to above."

"Therefore, the National University Union, on behalf of all colleges and universities in China, hereby lodges its most emphatic protest with the Soviet Government, and requests that you will immediately instruct the Peking Soviet Ambassador to discontinue such supplies.—Kuo Min.

CINEMA DIRECTOR.

PAT'S BRIEF VISIT TO SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, Jan. 15.
 The girl from Houndsditch, West End, the International Settlement or the French Concession has a chance in Hollywood, but it is a small, fleeting, flicker one, in the opinion of J. Merton Sills, cinema director of Hollywood and brother of the famous star, Milton Sills. Milton Sills is in Shanghai on a brief visit and is planning to tour the Orient before returning to America.

The girl who seeks fame in Hollywood, Mr. Sills declared, needs a certain amount of histrionic ability, good looks, graceful features and a great deal of good fortune.

Girls are not hired for the cinema by the individual studios, he revealed, but by the Central Casting Bureau. Figures released by the bureau recently showed that thousands of extra girls in Hollywood averaged less than three days of work a week. Extra men were employed more often but were unable to total three full days out of seven.

Hollywood, Mr. Sills stated, points with pride to a half dozen or more girls who climbed from the role of extra girl to stardom. Heading the list is Betty Bronson. Miss Bronson heard that a girl was wanted for Sir James Barrie's "Peter Pan." She left her home in East Orange, N.J., rushed to Hollywood, and after days of effort was finally given a test for the role. This test, together with hundreds of others, was sent to England, where Sir James viewed it. Miss Bronson leaped to fame in this picture.

Two other girls mentioned by Mr. Sills as having great good fortune in Hollywood were Miss Mary Brian and Miss Ruth Taylor. Mary Brian came to Hollywood from a Texas city, failed to obtain cinema work but joined a revue in which she was seen by a director, given a test and made a featured player. Miss Taylor became famous overnight in "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes."

Mason, A. H. Penn, J. R. Collis, E. A. Simon, A. N. Osher.

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 Wire 138 1/2
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 Stockholm 18.16
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 Oslo 18.14 1/2
 Vienna 34.67 1/2
 Prague 16.42
 Holdingsfors 19.34
 Madrid 28.76
 Lisbon 2 20/64
 Athens 36 1/2
 Bucharest 790
 Rio 5 29/32
 Bombay 1/6 1/8
 Shanghai 2/7
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 Mining.
 Benguet 324 n
 Kailan Mining 114 b
 Langkat (Combined) 716 b
 do. (Single) 710 b
 Shanghai Explorations 32.85 b
 Shanghai Loans 12.10 b
 Bonds 144 b
 Trocadero 177 b
 Docks, Wharves, Godowns, &c.
 H.K. & K. Wharves 120 1/2 n
 H.K. & W. Docks 43 b
 China Providents 48.05 b 6.20 sa
 [6.90/6 sa]
 Hongkew 1183
 New Engineering 85 n
 Shanghai Docks 189 1/2 n
 Cotton Mills.
 Ewo Cottons 75.30 b & sa
 Oriental Cottons 32 n
 S'hai Cottons (Old) 144 b
 do. (New) 722 b
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 H.K. & S. Hotels 38.60 b
 do. (New) 18 1/2 b 6.05 sa
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 Shanghai Lands 112 b
 Sunpreya Estate 122 b
 Hongkong Realities 38.45 b
 H.K. Territorial 41 1/2 n
 Princes' Buildings
 Public Utilities.
 H.K. Tramways 24.50 b
 Peak Trams (old) 125/25.10 sa
 do. (new) 47 1/2 b
 Star Ferries 103 1/2 b
 China Lights (comb.) 114 b 15 sa
 do. (old) 110 b
 do. (new) 174 b 6 1/2 sa
 H.K. Electric 84 b 70 sa
 H.K. Telephones 44.25 b 4.30 sa
 China Buses 76 n
 Singapore Tractions 11.9 n
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 China Sugars 39 1/2 n
 Malayan Sugars 32 1/2 n
 Canton Ice 37 1/2 b
 Cementa (comb.) 11 1/2 b 12 sa
 do. (old) 10 b
 do. (new) 11 1/2 b
 H.K. Ropes (old) 35 1/2 b
 do. (new) 32 1/2 b
 United Asbestos 410 b
 Stores, &c.
 Dairy Farms 118 b
 Watsons 114.10 b
 Der A. Wings 46 b
 Sams. Overseas 35.50 b
 (Macintosh) 132 b
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SIR HENRY WOOD.

THE B.B.C.'s GOOD STROKE.

Every one is delighted that Sir Henry Wood and the British Broadcasting Corporation have come together, writes "Ariel" in the "Musical Times." The removal of the Queen's Hall ban on the microphone (he says) is not the least of the benefits arising from the B.B.C.'s latest stroke. A host of fresh concerts and functions will now be tapable for the benefit of the wider public. As for the B.B.C.'s own orchestral concerts, the change from the Albert Hall will be an obvious advantage from the box office point of view. The Albert Hall is surprisingly successful for broadcasting, but its fantastic echoes make it too speculative for the listener on the spot; until the concert begins he doesn't know whether his particular seat will enable him to hear an orchestra (the one he has paid for) or two, a few seconds' distance apart. Moreover, Kensington Gore is far less get-at-able than Queen's Hall. If the B.B.C. concerts at Queen's Hall prove to be as good as those at the Albert Hall, full houses may be counted on.

Programmes will no doubt make good some past omissions. The neglect of certain British composers at Queen's Hall in recent years has been notorious. Neither Elgar nor Stanford, for example, has had fair treatment, but with the Corporation in charge, and Sir Henry Wood given a free hand, one may look for an improvement. Valuable work will probably be done, too, in the direction of letting the people hear a great deal of excellent music that has dropped out of the ordinary concert repertory. One of the best features of the musical policy of the British Broadcasting Corporation (continues "Ariel") has been its valuable salvage work. Hardly a week passes without the performance of several compositions that in the ordinary way would never be heard in public. Their neglect in the concert room is due to a variety of causes; the composer may be out of fashion, or he may have been a good second-grade man overshadowed by a giant; there are many capital works, too, whose merit is admitted, but which somehow are not concert-room "winners," so to speak. Over and over again I have heard from the B.B.C. studio unfamiliar compositions of this type, their titles would never have drawn me to a concert room, yet they proved far more enjoyable than many items that figure regularly in ordinary concert programmes. It is hardly possible to overestimate the good work the B.B.C. is thus doing in widening the listener's knowledge and repertory. The point deserves to be emphasized, because this kind of service is not showy or sensational, and so is apt to be overlooked by critics.

"BEAU SABREUR."

A SEQUEL TO "BEAU GESTE."

The vast expanse of sand dunes near Guadalupe, California, has been turned into a gigantic stage setting, one of the largest pieces of scenic work ever accomplished by a motion picture company. The sand covers a stretch of many miles, and before a crew of Paramount studio workers came from Hollywood, there was not a sign of water or shrubbery. Such a spot proved to be an ideal location for the filming of the Sahara desert scenes in "Beau Sabreur," P. C. Wren's story of the Foreign Legion, a sequel to "Beau Geste." A hundred or more studio employees from Hollywood were despatched to build a series of mammoth settings, Arabian villages, oases, and the like. Under the guidance of Al Herman, Paramount studio director, the desert was transformed. Some 125 palm trees were erected, together with 50 coloured tents, and bedecked with flags and rugs of all descriptions. Five holes were dug out of the sand, and cemented to hold water. Palm trees went up around them, and now five perfect oases are to be found there. Gary Cooper is starred in "Beau Sabreur."

SCREENINGS.

Midnight shows are now a feature of Paramount Theatre, New York. This innovation was tried out with the Paramount picture, "Underworld," and proved such a success that it has been decided to have an extra nightly performance at 11.45 o'clock. "Underworld" brought £17,000 to the theatre in one week.

The Al Christie production, "Tillie's Punctured Romance," has already been commenced in Hollywood. For this Paramount-Christie special, Chester Conklin has been loaned to the Christie studios. Others in the cast include Louise Brooks, W. C. Fields, and Louise Fazenda.

With one Australia production making movie history, and another now almost ready for release, Australia lost its American producer, Norman Dawn, recently, when he returned to America as quietly as he went to Australia. He was a man to shun ostentation and all public show, and settled down to work immediately on his arrival, now almost 18 months ago. He has contributed greatly to the establishment of successful motion picture production in Australia. Few people knew that he was leaving Sydney, and that is just as he wished it, for he was very ill with influenza, and consequently there was no round of farewell parties to mark his departure. The beautiful Katherine Dawn, his wife, who has assisted him in every branch of his work, in addition to playing featured roles in both pictures, "For the Term of His Natural Life" and "The Adorable Outcast," was said to leave, and hoped that they might return some day. "It's a great place—this Australia of yours," she said quietly from behind a bower of glorious spring flowers.

Marceline Day, who plays the title role in the Tiffany Production released by Master Pictures, "That Model From Paris," liked her experience as a model in the production. During the scenes, in which she shows some magnificent gowns, Miss Day just revelled in the gorgeous creations that she wore. Many of the costumes were worth many hundreds of dollars, and came from the leading modiste shops of New York and Paris.

Charles Farrell had not the faintest idea that he would be selected for the part as he came into Frank Borzage's office early last spring, when that director was looking everywhere for a suitable Chico for "7th Heaven." Charles was only being helpful and had come to suggest his friend, Edmund Morelle, whom he considered ideal for the role. But Charles was wearing a French Beret cap as a dare and presented such a jaunty appearance that Mr. Borzage was visualizing him as Chico the whole time. Charles was pleading for his friend's cause. After gaining the director's promise that he would give the friend a test, Charles left for Texas to play the lead in "The Rough Riders," unconscious of the fact that as soon as he left the office Mr. Borzage had called for studies of him in various make ups. The result was that Charles was notified by wire that he had won the coveted part of the year—without even a test, "7th Heaven" is adapted from the play by Austin Strong. Janet Gaynor plays opposite Farrell in the role of the pathetic Diane.

RIN-TIN-TIN.

Rin-tin-tin has done so many wonderful things on the screen that it would look as if there were nothing more for him to show that would surprise the thousands that flock to see him. Seemingly there is, however, and it will all be proved with the release of "Jaws of Steel," the new feature which is now being made ready by Warner Bros. In this picture "Rinty" is said to have one of the best roles that has ever fallen to him. Some of its scenes, laid in the "ghost" cities of the desert, are said to be intensely thrilling. Ray Enright has been directing "Jaws of Steel," the story of which, by Gregory Rogers, was adapted by Charles F. Condon. Helene Ferguson and Jason Robards are to have the big roles in "Rinty's" new picture.

'LA SERVA PADRONA'

MUSICAL MODEL OF SIMPLE BEAUTY.

We would very much like to see Pergolesi's "La Serva Padrona" produced in Hong Kong. There are only three characters to the piece, and one of these does not utter a word. The play was enjoyed in Melbourne quite recently, and the melodies, though composed nearly 200 years ago, were as sparkling and as exuberant as if they had been written only yesterday. The engaging themes of the two acts were admirably interpreted under the artistic direction of Signor de Glogio, with Mr. H. Stann as leader of the orchestra of strings. The demands of the vocal score are met by two singers, a soprano and basso cantante, the vivacious Serpina and her employer, Uberto, who figures in a pretty comedy of wits. Serpina, resolved to marry Uberto, excites his jealousy by pretending to be engaged to a military officer, and persuades the mute valet, Vespono, to masquerade as this soldier. Uberto then realises that he is in love with his artful servant, and all ends happily.

According to the critics, "La Serva Padrona" is, musically, a model of simple beauty. And it has certain unique claims to attention because it is a document of pre-Mozartian days, and in its easy grace, in the pure Italian style, unaffected by the meretricious glitter of the "aria di bravura," which so many writers were unable to resist, it stands to-day a charming and refined example of lyric composition. The melodic line remains clear and untrammelled, the vocal construction fluent, precise, and direct. Even though he has employed limited resources, Pergolesi has endowed the music with remarkable colour and variety. These old masters, after all, when they were unable to secure orchestras of symphony proportions, said what they had to say quite clearly without them.

A ROMANTICIST.

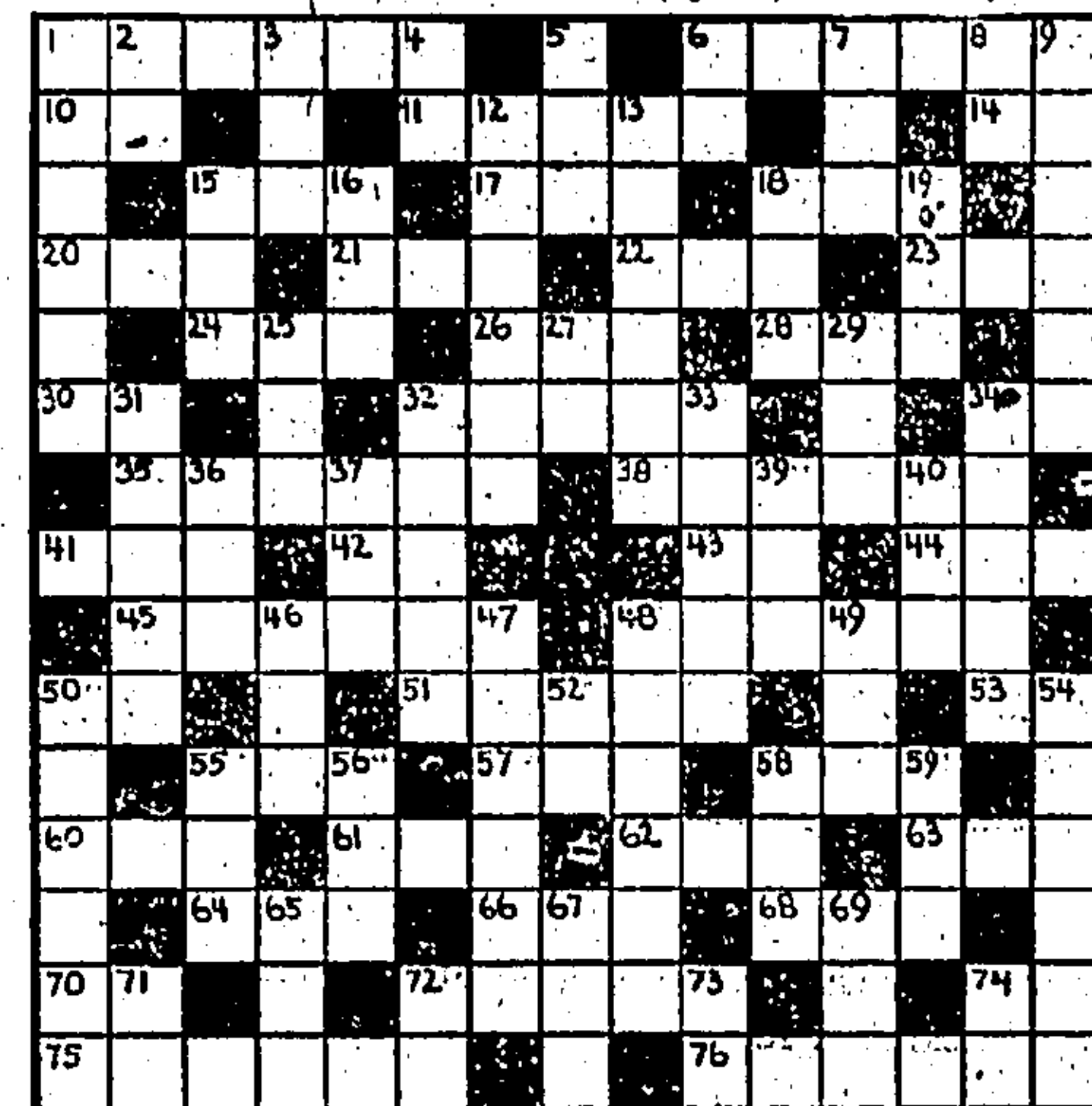
FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF SHAKESPEARE.

Berlioz was a romanticist—but of an extremely high order. To him it was not a mere mixture of fancy costumes and high-flown sentiments; it was something vital and passionate, something with the qualities that he found in "Romeo and Juliet." The story is told that when he first saw this love drama he did not know a word of English, and his acquaintance with Shakespeare was made only through Letourneur's foggy version. "It is much harder!" he said, for a Frenchman to sound the depths of Shakespeare than for an Englishman to feel the delicacy and originality of La Fontaine and Moliere. Our two poets are rich continents; Shakespeare is a world. But the play of the actors above all of actresses, the succession of the scenes, the pantomime and the accent of the voices, meant more to me, and I did me a thousand times more with Shakespeare's ideas and passion, than the text of my colourless and unfaithful translation.

La Belle Smithson, the inspiring actress, who in the end married Berlioz, had become the idol of poets and painters, not to speak of the wealthy idlers. Berlioz always denied that after seeing Miss Smithson as "Juliet" he had exclaimed: "I will marry that woman and write my grandest symphony on the play." "I did both," he added, "but I did not say that I would." Berlioz, a true romantic, did not seek to make her acquaintance in a direct way, but arranged with great expense, a choral and orchestral concert, at which he expected her to be present, and to be overwhelmed by the magic of his compositions. She did not come to the hall, and the concert was a failure. They did not meet till long afterwards, but in the meantime the fair Smithson had heard his "Episode in the Life of an Artist," founded on his ideal love for her; also that the craze for Shakespeare and for herself had dwindled; so, graciously, she became Madame Berlioz.

DAILY CROSS-WORD PUZZLE.

(This cross-word puzzle has been made by an expert but our readers are warned to look out for occasional phonetic spellings, such as harbor, plow, and altho.)

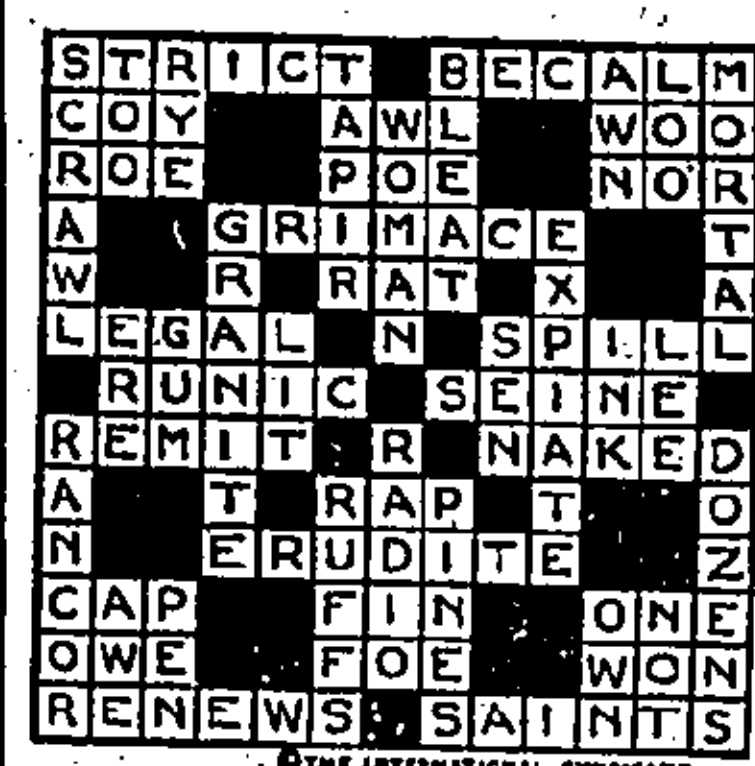


HORIZONTAL	HORIZONTAL (Cont.)	VERTICAL (Cont.)
1-Illuminant	57-Consume	18-Ductile
2-A fruit	58-Stain	19-Equality of value
10-Preposition	60-Black oily liquid	25-Part of body
11-Point of compass	61-Ancient	27-Musical note
14-Article	62-Golf term	29-Demand
15-Contraction of even	63-A sailor	31-Disk of metal
17-Arm of sea	64-Brownish color	32-Trap
18-A serpent	65-Turn to the right	33-Pops
20-Move swiftly	66-A horse	34-Wild animal
21-Every	67-Preposition	35-A color
22-Short stick	72-Wild animals	37-Anger
23-Gone by	74-Topographical	38-Fabled bird
24-A peck	75-Engineer (abbr.)	40-Self
26-Southern State of U. S. (abbr.)	76-Sleep of dried dough	46-Domestic animal
28-Boat propeller	78-Leopard-like animal	47-A tied
30-Printer's unit		48-More desirable
32-Tolerate		49-Operates a lock
34-Prone		50-Achieve
35-The stout		52-S. State of U. S. (abbr.)
38-European country		54-A lozenge
41-Poem		55-Skill
42-Egyptian sun god		56-An age
43-Perform		58-Lair
44-Precious stone		59-Product of barnyard
45-Viper		63-Suscor
46-Make a mute signal		67-Sense organ
50-Man's name (familiar)		69-Yes
51-Mischiefous sprites		71-Negative
53-Preposition		72-Happen
55-EPOCH		73-The
		74-Preposition

SUGGESTIONS FOR SOLVING CROSS-WORD PUZZLES.
Start out by filling in the words of which you feel reasonably sure. These will give you a clue to other words crossing them, and they in turn to still others. A letter belongs in each white space, words starting at the numbered squares and running either horizontally or vertically or both.

(The solution of the above cross-word puzzle will appear in to-morrow's issue along with a new cross-word puzzle.)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION.



HONGKONG HEIGHTS

For the information of visitors the following list of some of the highest points on the Island and Mainland is published:—

Island.	Feet.
Victoria Peak	1823
Signal Station	1774
Mt. Parker	1734
Mountain Lodge	1725
The Eyrie	1725
Peak Hotel	1505
Taikoo Sanatorium	1000
Mt. Davis	877
Bowen Rd. (afterwards)	291
Mainland.	
Taiwanan	3124
Kowloon Peak	1971

WATER SUPPLY.

Level and Storage of water in Reservoirs on January 1, 1928.

CITY AND HILL DISTRICT WATER WORKS LEVEL.

	1927	1928
Tydam	18' 6" B	12' 8" B
Tydam Bywash	25' 4" B	26' 6" B
Tydam Intermediate Level		
Tydam Tuk	12' 11" B	22' 6" B
Wong Nei Chung	15' 6" B	15' 6" B
Pokfulum	17' 11" B	10' 6" B

[Note: B. denotes "Below Overflow." A denotes "Above Overflow."]

Storage in millions and decimals of gallons.

	1927	1928
Tydam	278.72	285.76
Tydam Bywash	59	38
Tydam Intermediate	195.90	195.90
Tydam Tuk	1,121.75	923.98
Wong Nei Chung	13.59	13.46
Pokfulum	25.36	25.32

Total 1,838.91 1,448.25

Consumption of water in the City and Hill District in millions and decimals of gallons during the month of December.

	1927	1928
Consumption	244.29	271.68
Estimated population 1927	407,020	417,940
Consumption per head	10.8	20.9
per day		

Full Supply in all Rider Main Districts during December, 1926 with the exception of the districts West of Eastern Street where an intermittent supply was given from 1st to 31st December, 1927.

tent Supply was given from 4th to 31st December, 1926.

Full supply in all Rider Main Districts during December, 1927 with the exception of the districts West of Eastern Street where an intermittent supply was given from 1st to 31st December, 1927.

KOWLOON WATER WORKS LEVEL.

	1927	1928
Kowloon Reservoir	7' 0" B	7' 4" B
Shek Lai Pui Reservoir	0' 7" B	1' 1" B
Reception Reservoir	8' 4" B	2' 3" B

Storage in millions and decimals of gallons.

	1927	1928
Kowloon Reservoir	283.50	280.42
Shek Lai Pui Reservoir	98.40	96.37
Reception Reservoir	24.65	27.24
Total	406.55	404.03

Consumption of water in Kowloon in millions and decimals of gallons during the month of December.

	1927	1928
Consumption	74.89	88.68
Estimated population 1927	168,140	163,180
per day	16.3	17.5

Full Supply in all districts during December, 1926 and 1927.

The Government Analyst's reports show that the quality of the water is satisfactory.

Total rainfall to December 31, 1926, 160.78; December 31, 1927, 107.87.

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BRITISH KIDDIES.

STURDIER STOCK
NOWADAYS.

FOOD "STUNTS."

London's school children are far sturdier and healthier than were their parents at a similar age. Striking testimony to this fact is forthcoming in the report, on the health of children by Sir George Newman, Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education.

Since 1908 these reports have made an annual appearance—collectively they constitute, in their compiler's words, a "sort of Domesday on the physical condition of the English child"—and the present volume is the customary lively commentary on the means of raising a healthy young England.

For, of course, the improvement is not confined to London. It embraces elementary school children throughout the country, and the Chief Medical Officer attributes it to medical care and supervision, better nurture, physical training, fresh air, improved school sanitation, the direct treatment of ailments and defects, and the higher social standard of the community.

Sir George dismisses the fashionable food "stunts" of the present or any other time, and plumps for a mixed and varied diet which shall combine each of the features which the faddists demand to the exclusion of the rest. As to the current controversy on clothes, Sir George sums up his own opinion in the vigorous comment: "Food is more important than raiment, yet many poor bodies foolishly clothe themselves with fine apparel though they know that food is better than silk stockings."

"More often it is careless mothering, ignorance of upbringing, and lack of nurture than actual shortage of food which results in a mal-nourished child. Insufficient sleep, chronic fatigue, absence of fresh air, and lack of exercise are exerting a very great influence day by day on the well-being of multitudes of children. Magnificent schemes and expensive staffs are of no avail if mothers and teachers neglect these simple matters."

Food Comes First.
"Food is more important than raiment, yet many poor bodies foolishly clothe themselves with fine apparel, though they know that food is better than silk stockings," says Sir George. "Some men," he continues, "know how to live, others do not; some

men know how to behave in varying circumstances, other do not; some men find truth and strive to live by it; others do not." The Board of Education, he insists, holds that, primarily, health is a life to be lived, and not a subject to be taught, and therefore that the acquisition of healthy habits is better than theoretical instruction. In a word, that hygiene, like English, cannot be merely an isolated subject in the curriculum, but is pervasive. It is intimately connected with physical training, domestic subjects, science (and especially biology), and even history and geography. Nevertheless, it might be difficult for foreigners visiting our schools to understand our direct methods of inculcating the principles of hygiene, or the place of that subject in our educational system. The conclusion to be drawn from evidence gathered from various parts of the country is that direct teaching is unequal and variable, according to the circumstances of the particular school.

School Work.

A competent and well-informed teacher, steadily and consistently supported, will ensure an effective presentation of the subject. But there are some difficulties to overcome. In some places the school premises and equipment do not provide a very favourable environment for health demonstration purposes, but rather the reverse; in many schools the teacher has not yet devoted himself to a thorough understanding of hygiene and a wise exposition and interpretation of it; in many others, for reasons which are not forthcoming, the responsible authorities seem to have allowed hygiene to be inadvertently crowded out of the curriculum, being either unappreciative of its value or unable to arrange for its presentation; and in some areas there is no escape from the conclusion that the subject has been neglected.

Local education authorities who deliberately neglect to make reasonable provision for school education in hygiene seem to me to incur a grave responsibility, and I invite them critically to review the position in their own areas. Why, for instance, should the boys in Hornsey regularly be taught hygiene, the way to live a healthy life, and the boys of London receive no regular and systematic education of this sort? It is unsatisfactory and inequitable that the children of a particular district should be deprived of advantages effectually obtainable by the children of a contiguous

area. Yet this is at present the case.

Games.

An earnest appeal is made for the encouragement of games from the health standpoint. In the young of all animals—puppies, kittens, chicks, baby elephants, and the human infant—there seems to be an instinct of playfulness. "Is it not," asks the writer, "something we ought to train and build upon? Education should be charming to the young. It should be a growth and harnessing of its animal instincts, its bodily senses, its mental faculties. It should spell happy days in the sunshine and in the wide and winsome fields of nature. It should consist of the beginnings of music, art, and letters, of adventure and heroism, of the vigour of the youthful body and the curiosity of the awakening mind, of tales of romance, of games. . . . Field games constitute an additional and effective means for securing the full development of body, mind and character. They create and develop, as nothing else can, such qualities as initiative accuracy, quickness of decision, unselfishness, self-control, the team spirit, and a desire to 'play the game.' Added to this is their enormous health value."

In regard to the work of the school medical service, it is stated that it is maintained by 1,223 specially-appointed school doctors, who make a routine inspection of all children three times in their school life. In 1926 the number of children in age groups medically inspected was 1,821,577, in addition to 863,590 "ailing" children outside the prescribed age groups. The number of "routine" children found to be suffering from physical impairment or some particular defect or disease was 367,032 (or 20 per cent.), while minor ailments numbered 665,668. In regard to one aspect of the work, Sir George Newman objects to an invalid child being entered merely as "debilitated" or "delicate." "This," he insists, "is a convenient label for our ignorance. It is a makeshift and temporary diagnosis. It is necessary to investigate the condition much more thoroughly. Disease in early life is not peculiar; it is the child, the patient itself, who is peculiar."

The marriage arranged between Mr. F. H. Brunton, Sepang, Selangor, and Miss G. M. Maxwell, Lumut, Dindings, will take place, very quietly, at Sitiawan, Lower Perak, on Saturday, the 28th inst.

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Coughs, Bronchial Catarrh, etc.

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1928 ISSUE
OF THE
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LONDON SERVICE.

"PERSEUS" 7th Feb. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
"HECTOR" 22nd Feb. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow
"GLAUCOS" 6th Mar. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
"AENEAS" 20th Mar. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow
* via Casablanca.

LIVERPOOL SERVICE.

"MENTOR" 20th Feb. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"AGHILLES" 5th Mar. Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"POLYTHEMUS" 1st Apr. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"BELLEPHONON" 20th Apr. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow

PACIFIC SERVICE.

to Kobe & Yokohama.
"PROTEUS" 28th Jan. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle
"TALITHYBIUS" 18th Feb. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle

NEW YORK SERVICE.

"LYGON" 8th Mar. New York, Boston & Baltimore
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"HECTOR" 22nd Feb. Singapore, Marseilles & London
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"SARFEDON" 18th Apr. Singapore, Marseilles & London
"PATROCLUS" 10th May. Singapore, Marseilles & London
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POST OFFICE NOTICE.

"On and after January 4, Radio telegrams will be accepted at the Radio Counter, 1st floor Government Building for transmission to all offices in British North Borneo at the rate of 40 cents per word."

INWARD MAILS.

From	Per	
FRIDAY, JANUARY 27		
Europe via Negapatam (papers only, London 29th Dec., 1927)	Talamba.	
Shanghai	Szechuen.	
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28		
Japan & Shanghai	Haruna Maru.	
Europe via Negapatam (letters only, London 29th Dec., 1927)	Laisang.	
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan & Shanghai	Pres. Wilson.	
MONDAY, JANUARY 30		
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan & Shanghai	Pres. Madison.	
Manila	Pres. Cleveland.	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3		
Japan & Shanghai	Malwa.	

OUTWARD MAILS.

For	Per	
FRIDAY, JANUARY 27		
Samshui & Wuchow	San Ning	4 p.m.
Fort Bayard, Hoihow, Pakhoi & Haiphong	Hanoi	5 p.m.
* Straits & Calcutta. Parcels 5 p.m. Letters (28th Jan.) 9 a.m.	Santhia.	
Japan, Canada, U.S.A., C. & S. America, & Europe via Victoria (due 21st Feb.) Parcels 9.45 a.m. Letters 10.30 a.m.	Protesilaus.	
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28		
Bangkok	Ryusei Maru	8.30 a.m.
Saigon	Confucius	8.30 a.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, E. & S. Africa, Aden, Egypt & Europe via Marseilles (due Marseilles, 28th Feb.) K.P.O.—Registration (28th Jan.) 10 a.m. Letters 1 p.m. G.P.O.—Registration (28th Jan.) 12.45 p.m. Letters 1.30 p.m.	Haruna Maru.	
Sandakan	Hinsang	1.30 p.m.
Manila	Pres. Wilson	5 p.m.
Amoy	Nanking	5 p.m.
Hoihow, Pakhoi & Haiphong	Nanning	5 p.m.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29		
Bangkok via Swatow	Kalgan	8.30 a.m.
Swatow, Amoy & Formosa	Hozon Maru	9 a.m.
MONDAY, JANUARY 30		
Swatow	Hydrangea	2.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central & South America & Europe via San Francisco—due San Francisco, 28th Feb. & Europe via Siberia. Parcels 8 p.m. Registration 4.15 p.m. Letters 5 p.m.	Pres. Cleveland.	
Amoy	Sinkang	8.30 p.m.
Amoy	Lai Sang	5 p.m.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31		
Hoihow, Pakhoi & Haiphong	Takwa Maru	8.30 a.m.
Hoihow	Klungchow	10.30 a.m.
Swatow, Amoy & Fochow	Haiching	Noon

*Correspondence bearing vessel's name only.

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NEW INDUSTRIES.

Role In Economic Life.

BRITAIN ADVANCING.

Demand For Artificial Silk Abnormal.

London, Yesterday.
An interesting review of Great Britain's newer industries, particularly electrical, motor car, chemical, and artificial silk, was given at the annual meeting of the Westminster Bank.
The Chairman, Mr. Hugh Tennant, instancing the recent boom in these shares, said that Great Britain's exports of electrical goods were greater than those of any country in the world. The rise in the production of motor cars was equally striking, being nine times that of 1912. Chemical had undergone a re-organisation amounting to re-birth. For artificial silk, in spite of the great extensions of mills and machinery, it was still found that the demand was running far ahead of supply.

It was clear that the newer industries would play a growing role in our economic life, but it would be an illusion to suppose that their prosperity counterbalanced the depression in the old industries. The full attainment of prosperity was impossible unless coal, iron, steel, shipbuilding, cotton, and wool were also enjoying full activity.

Country's Savings.

The Chairman, Sir Harry Goschen, at the annual meeting of the National Provincial Bank, says that the public in 1927 subscribed £317,000,000 of fresh capital for industrial purposes, which is an indication of the country's savings.
Sir H. Goschen thought that in spite of banking amalgamations the rivalry between banks in Great Britain was never more acute and American and other foreign bankers were competing in the British market. It was evident that Americans were doing their utmost to divert to the United States profitable business previously confined to British banks.—Reuter.

ECONOMIC STAMINA.

Increased Efficiency and Happiness.

Rugby, Yesterday.
The Chairman of two of the big London banks spoke to-day in optimistic terms of British trade prospects.

Mr. Tennant, presiding at the annual meeting of the Westminster Bank, said that "In the view of those best qualified to judge the total volume of the country's economic activity is greater to-day than in any year since the post-war slump, and it is probably greater also than in the active pre-war year of 1919." The recovery from the set-back of 1926 had been sufficiently quick and sustained to be in itself a testimony to the economic stamina of the country.

Mr. Tennant said there was a consensus of opinion among economists that, as a nation, we are spending more than we did before the great war. Masses of the people are better clothed and better fed. The motor car a few years back was the luxury of the rich, whilst to-day garage accommodation is one of the first pre-occupations of architects of even humble houses. In so far as this freer spending represented a higher standard of living, better health, increased efficiency, and happiness, it was entirely welcomed. Moreover, in a period of rapid changes such as this country had been passing through a number of goods passed out of the category of undoubted luxuries into or very nearly into the class of commodities regarded as necessities. The two factors which facilitated this change were scientific invention and mass production. The former had brought silk wear within the reach of almost every purse, whilst by the latter method the motor car had become cheaper and cheaper, and, therefore, progressively available to wider and wider sections of population. Mr. Tennant added that the artificial silk industry, in spite of the great extensions of mills and machinery, still found that the demand ran far ahead of supply.

BALKAN AFFAIRS.

Italo-Yugo-Slavian Relations.

TREATY EXTENDED.

First Step Toward Complete Readjustment.

Belgrade, Yesterday.
The signature to the protocol prolonging provisionally the Italo-Yugo-Slavian Treaty of friendship and cordial collaboration constitutes, according to the "Politika," the first step toward the complete re-adjustment of the provisional arrangement furnished the basis for the discussions now proceeding for a settlement of all outstanding difficulties. It had been suggested that the Treaty should simply be prolonged for three years, but the Yugo-Slav Government urged that at least more important questions should be adjusted before the Treaty was definitely renewed.—Reuter.

Roumania and Italy.

London, Yesterday.
Whilst Italy and Yugo-Slavia are settling difficulties, M. Titulesco, the Roumanian Foreign Minister, is visiting Rome. He conferred at length with Signor Mussolini and afterwards declared that the policy of loyal and active Italo-Roumanian collaboration did not conflict with the interests of the Little Entente as both aimed at maintaining peace. He was certain that the present difficulties could be overcome in view of the common interests of all civilised nations.—Reuter.

NICARAGUA.

DISCUSSION BY AMERICAN SENATORS.

EMPLOYMENT OF MARINES.

Washington, Yesterday.
The Senate's Foreign Relations Committee has discussed the Administration's Nicaraguan policy and is undecided whether to recommend an investigation.
Senator Borah, Chairman of the Committee, who favours a "constructive inquiry" which, he is of opinion, might be useful toward generally improving relations with the Latin American Republics, stated at the conclusion of the meeting that the matter would be again brought up.
Meanwhile, the Republican Senator Blaine, has brought up the matter in the Senate itself with a protest against the employment of marines in Nicaragua.—Reuter's American Service.

BURGOMASTER MAX.

BELGIAN WAR HERO TO VISIT LONDON.

Rugby, Yesterday.
Burgomaster, M. Max, of Brussels, a well-known war personality, arrives in London to-day on an official visit to the Lord Mayor.—British Wireless Service.
[The aged burgomaster, M. Max, of Brussels, whose independent spirit, evinced when the Germans occupied the Belgian capital, was universally admired, will be sure of a great reception in London.]

chinery, still found that the demand ran far ahead of supply.

Tide at Last Turned.
Sir Harry Goschen, presiding at the annual meeting of the National Provincial Bank, said: "We see theatres, cinemas, and other places of amusement crowded, with every evidence of prosperity. Retail establishments never appeared to be more attractive nor better supported by their customers. Indeed, it may be justly claimed that the general standard of living seems to be higher and implies increased expenditure; consequently, we may assume an increased expenditure." During the year 1927 millions of fresh capital has been subscribed by the public for industrial and other purposes, of which £55,000,000 has been on account of loans to foreign countries, which is some indication of the country's savings. There is, I believe, evidence that the tide has at last turned and is moving slowly toward better times.—British Wireless Service.

SECRET NO MORE.

Details of Racing Aero-Engine.

INTERESTING FEATURES.

Information About All-Metal Monoplane.

Rugby, Yesterday.
The secrecy which has hitherto been maintained regarding the details of the racing aero-engine which won the Schneider Trophy and which is fitted in the motor-car with which Captain Malcolm Campbell will attempt to break the land speed record, was broken yesterday.
The interesting feature of the engine is that it is the smallest and lightest for its power in existence. It weighs 850 lbs. and gives 875 horse power.

The All-Metal Monoplane.
Part publication is permitted regarding the details of the new all-metal monoplane, which is the largest ever built in this country and is known as the "Lardmore." Rolls Royce Indefatigable. It is of exceptionally large span and is fitted with three Rolls Royce Condor engines, one in the nose and one in each wing.

Speed Record.

It is considered probable that Flight-Lieutenant Kinkhead, who flew the Napier in the Schneider Cup race but did not finish the course, will be selected to fly the Supermarine Napier, which won the trophy, when an attempt is made in March to break the speed record.—British Wireless Service.

HOME POLITICS.

BY-ELECTION AT FAVERSHAM.

FOUR CANDIDATES.

London, Yesterday.
At Faversham, the by-election, owing to the death of Lieut.-Col Sir G. C. Wheeler, resulted:—Maitland (Conservative) 12,997
Aman (Labour) 11,813
Dunn (Liberal) 5,813
Hallwood (Independent Conservative) 1,090
—Reuter.

Previous Result.

Rugby, Yesterday.
The result of the last election at Faversham was Wheeler (Conservative) 14,432; Morgan (Labourite) 9,180; and Solomon (Liberal) 1,132.—British Wireless Service.

Anglesey.

Rugby, Yesterday.
Miss Megan Lloyd-George, daughter of the Liberal leader, is being approached by the Liberals of Anglesey to become the Liberal candidate for the county on the retirement, after the present Parliament, of Sir Robert Thomas, Liberal member. Sir R. Thomas had a majority of 5,827 against the Labour candidate at the last election.—British Wireless Service.

IRISH FREEDOM.

COSGRAVE THANKS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

Washington, Yesterday.
In the House of Representatives applause was evoked on the reading of a letter from President Cosgrave, thanking the American people for the part they played in winning freedom for the Irish people.—Reuter.

A WAR JINGO.

ADMIRAL PLUNKETT DECIDES TO RETIRE.

New York, Yesterday.
Admiral Plunkett, whose remarks on the subject of war evoked a rebuke from President Coolidge, is retiring on February 15. He announces his intention of going into business.—Reuter's American Service.

THE COMICAL HERO of "Battling Butler" and "The General" in a splendid new picture—



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The screen's greatest comedian in his greatest comedy—

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AT THE

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The drama of a girl and her crook associates who gamble their lives for millions—

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STAR

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW

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